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THE ITALIAN CRISIS.

The dangerous condition at this moment of all Europe is shown by the immense importance that has been attached in every country to the invasion of the Roman territory by a few unorganised bands of Garibaldians. The two smallest States in Europe are Rome and Luxemburg; and during the last six months we have been twice brought to the very verge of war, first, by a Luxemburg question, and, secondly, by a Roman question. Even the infinitesimal question of North Schleswig—the question whether the Danish districts of that province shall be given back to Denmark or retained by Prussia—has caused very grave misunderstandings; and in every one of these misunderstandings and quarrels we have seen Prussia ranged on one side, France on the other. In regard to the Luxemburg question, France and Prussia were, of course, the leading Powers concerned; but it does not at first sight seem to matter much to France whether the Danish districts of North Schleswig are made over to Denmark or not, while to Prussia it would appear to be quite immaterial whether Rome belongs to Italy or continues to enjoy its nominal independence. In addition to the three questions just mentioned, there is the question of the completion of German unity: the question whether Prussia shall be allowed to absorb in her German federation the States south of the Main. Here, again, France and Prussia are the chief disputants.

In short, every question that has been agitated since the Prusso-Austrian war has been one in which the interests both of France and of Prussia have somehow been involved. Wherever Prussia wishes to make a step, France endeavours to check her. Wherever France is preparing to move, Prussia is sure to place herself in the way. France warns Prussia not to keep possession too long of North Schleswig. Prussia will not allow France to complete the purchase of the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg. It is partly through fear of France that Prussia does not call openly on the States of the south to join her new confederation; and in the movement, supposed to be hostile to French interests, that has just taken place in Italy, France persists, with or without reason, in seeing the hand of Prussia. Whatever question, in short, may arise in Europe, France, as a matter of course, is sure to take one side, Prussia the other; and it is difficult to believe, when so many causes of quarrel

exist, that quarrelling will not some day or other end in fighting.

The Italian crisis, which may now, for a time at least, be looked upon as at an end, was full of danger while it lasted. Its immediate effects have already shown that the Roman

of the Roman question will date from the occupation of Rome by the Italians, if ever that event—certainly probable enough—should come to pass. At present the September Convention, and the manner in which it is observed or violated, interests diplomats, politicians of all kinds, and a certain limited number of newspaper readers. The Catholic world, as a mass, cares little about it. But let it once be known that the head of the Catholic Church is threatened, and that he has even been put to flight, and in South Germany, in Spain, in Belgium, and even in Italy itself, there will be a general uprising of the faithful. Events would have an effect on the multitude that mere ideas cannot produce, and the knowledge that the Pope had been chased from what, after all, are his legitimate dominions, would cause an amount of popular indignation which would certainly manifest itself in corresponding governmental acts. It seems to us in England the most simple thing in the world that the chief of a religion which we, as a nation, have long pronounced to be false, should be sent about his business; but there are some very powerful Governments in Europe which consider themselves bound to make all the efforts of which they are capable to maintain the Papal power; and France, in taking the first step on behalf of the Holy Father, meant, no doubt, to show, not only that she was determined to enforce the execution of the September Convention as a treaty, but also that she was really the first and most active of the Catholic Powers—or, according to the recognised formula, "the eldest son of the church."

France has gained a little triumph through the events that have recently taken place in Italy. She has declared that darkness shall remain in Rome, and darkness has remained. Otherwise, the embarkation of the French troops at Toulon and Marseilles sufficiently shows that the Garibaldians, and through them United Italy, were expected to replace the Papal Government in that "Eternal City" whose bad government seems as eternal as the city itself. France has made it more apparent than ever that it is she, above all—whether as a mundane political power or as the

KING THEODORE OF ABBESSINA.—(FROM AN ORIGINAL SKETCH.)

question is not by any means so easy of settlement as some rough-and-ready politicians who are prepared with a solution for every political difficulty would have us believe. M. Guizot, who, we need hardly say, is a Protestant, has well remarked that the most difficult phase

eldest child of the Church—who refuses to allow the Italians to take possession of their natural capital; and this display of resolution and power on the part of the French Government will no doubt give a certain amount of satisfaction to the French nation. All the journals of France



have agreed in saying that the Prussians were urging the Italians to invade Rome; and the order from Paris to the Italians to interfere with Rome no more will be looked upon in France as a snub, not merely to the Italian Government, but to the Prussian Government also.

For the present, there is every reason to believe that the question of the invasion of Rome by the Garibaldians—not the Roman question in general—is at an end; but it cannot sleep for long, and as certainly as it arises again will the chances of war in Europe present themselves.

KING THEODORE.

In presenting our readers with a Portrait of King Theodore, of Abyssinia—which we have every reason to believe to be a faithful representation of the man, having been taken by stealth by one of the captives, and said, by one who has seen his Majesty, to be a very good likeness—we are, at the same time, induced to give a short biographical sketch of the original. King Theodore was born at Tscherry about the year 1821, in the province of Kuara, in Western Abyssinia. His father, a man of no distinction, named Hailu Weleda Georgis, said to have been a descendant of the royal line of Ethiopian princes, died when Theodore was very young; and the small property possessed by him was seized by greedy relatives and very soon dissipated, leaving his mother and himself quite destitute, so that the former was reduced to seek a miserable subsistence by the sale of the specific for the tapeworm called koso. Not being able to support her boy, she got him into the convent of Tschangar, some twelve hours south-west of Gondar. Here Kassa (so called from his mother's occupation of koso-vender) remained a considerable time, hoping at some future period to obtain distinction in the Church. But Dejatch Marou, a defeated rebel, took it into his head to set fire to the convent, killing and mutilating its inmates; fortunately, Kassa escaped in the night to the residence of a powerful uncle, Dejatch Comtu, in whose home, which was the residence of scheming and discontented rebels, this ardent youth imbibed an enthusiastic love for the dangerous and daring exploits which were consequent upon the pursuit of these marauding banditti. Kassa thus secured the favour of his uncle and his followers. During Kassa's sojourn in the convent he became acquainted with the legends of the Church, among which he was much attracted with a prophecy that "a certain mighty man named Theodore would arise in the East, destroy the followers of the false Prophet, wrest the Holy Sepulchre from their infidel grasp, extirpate the Moslem out of the Holy Land, re-establish the kingdom of Judah in its pristine grandeur, plant the cross again on the Temple, and receive the crown and sceptre of the East, and reign in peace at Jerusalem." This idea had taken such strong hold upon the mind of Kassa that his fanaticism led him to believe he was the individual destined to fulfil this prophecy, which he cherished in secret with all his heart. His ambition, therefore, knew no bounds. On the death of his uncle he attached himself to a banditti of some seventy persons, who made themselves the terror of the Mohammedan merchants who plied their trade between Matemna and Abyssinia; and, having collected a considerable number of followers, he began to be troublesome to the reigning powers. Waisero Menen, the Queen mother of Ras Ali, the then ruler of Amhara, prompted by deep animosity against all who defied her power, sent an army against him, which he easily defeated. Finding she was not a match for him in arms she tried her cunning, and offered him Ras Ali's beautiful daughter as a bait to entrap him. He, however, married the lady, and afterwards subdued the Queen and her son, and eventually became the ruler of the provinces which had been the possessions of the Queen and Ras Ali. His power now increased to such an extent that he conquered most of the other chiefs, and, in 1855, was crowned "King of the Kings of Ethiopia," under the name of Theodore; since which period, by a systematic despotism, combined with the most artful cunning, he arrived, by the aid of two Englishmen, Mr. Bell and Consul Plowden, to a pitch of eminence never before attained by any Ethiopian ruler. But on the death of these two councillors and brave men his fortunes turned. They had kept him in check during their lives, and prevented him from the commission of many crimes and cruelties; he also lost his first wife, to whom he was tenderly attached, and to whose humane advice he would frequently give way in the administration of his affairs. These losses preyed upon his mind and induced him to adopt evil counsels, which have much accelerated his downfall; added to which it is said that he has become a debauchee and a monster of cruelty, even approaching that of the notorious King of Dahomey himself. Some of his later deeds justify this conclusion, especially those of burning the capital of Gondar, to which atrocity he added the driving of scores of women into a large building and setting fire to it. In his own camp he murdered 670 of his soldiers, cutting off the heads of many, and deliberately shooting others with his own hand; and because many of the army deserted him, he destroyed their wives and children by dressing them in cotton steeped in wax and setting fire to them. And late accounts state that within six weeks he had destroyed upwards of 3000 people by fire and sword.

We add the following particulars respecting King Theodore from Mr. Henry Dufton's recently-published work, "Narrative of a Journey through Abyssinia in 1862-3":—

When we had reached the plain at the foot of Mount Tabor, Theodore mounted his horse. Agile and supple, he sprang off the ground into the saddle without touching the stirrup. He is so expert in this feat of horsemanship that he is said to be able to vault into his seat even while the horse is in motion, like the trained Arab. Evidently his pride animated him highly on horseback. We having also mounted, he then amused himself by chasing Maderakal with spear in hand over the plain. Off they flew. Maderakal was only riding a mule, but he skinned along on it so swiftly and well that the King was highly gratified with him, and bought the mule of him there and then, giving of course a kingly price for it. We now arrived at Gaffat, and here we were met by M. Lejean, who, hearing of the King's approach, had only time to assume his uniform before Theodore arrived. Mr. Lejean had wished to hoist his tricolour on the top of his tent, but he was dissuaded from doing it, as he was told that the King would be greatly displeased at such a course, as representing an encroachment on his prerogative. This objection is part and parcel of that which he entertains against the establishment of consulates in his dominions. The King's idea is that the existence of no other Power should be recognised in the country besides his own, and that all persons residing in his territories, natives or foreigners must obey the laws of the land and be subject to him entirely. It is an instance of his singularly jealous character, and of his view of despotism. If, therefore, a Consul ventures into this country he must not do so with the idea that his person will be considered sacred, or that the Power represented by him will impose awe; but he must be prepared to stand on the same footing as a native of the country. Hence the subsequent imprisonment of the French and English Consuls, in whatever light we may choose to regard it, was not looked upon by Theodore as an infringement of the rights of nations; for rights of this nature he had never recognised. I believe, however, with regard to Ambassadors the case is different, and that the custom of ancient nations in respect to them holds good in Abyssinia; at all events, the persons of messengers passing between two contending armies are held sacred. The Consul seemed, at first, as uncertain to whom to make obeisance as I had been myself; for, several of his Majesty's nobles being dressed in gay coloured tunics, the King appeared the last person of all to be the one who claimed regal honours. M. Lejean's hesitation, however, was but momentary; for a word from one of the Europeans soon enabled him, with a profound bow, to tender homage where homage was due. The King merely responded with a few words of welcome, and then asked the Consul when he would wish to be received officially. M. Lejean, of course, made answer that it would be when it should please his Majesty. The King accordingly appointed the day following. His manner was familiar, not imperious in any degree. He now passed on to the inclosure where the last mortar had been turned out, and proceeded at once to inspect the furnace, while the various processes were explained to him by his "children." During this ceremony a slight incident happened to myself which might have brought me into trouble. The inclosure which contained the furnace was surrounded by a light framework of bamboo. It happened that I was following some few yards behind the King; my foot slipped, and I fell against the framework in such a manner that the end of a long bamboo, flying back, struck his Majesty on the back of the head. Nobody appeared to have noticed the affair but the King. He faced about quietly, and gave me a mild glance, I suspect that he must have guessed at once how I had blundered. It was

a very peculiar, benevolent, transitory look. I translated it as implying forgiveness readily. What grieved me most was that the great crush of the people prevented me from getting sufficiently near to ask his pardon. He seemed to have forgotten the circumstance immediately after. The King now expressed a wish to see a few bombs fired from the recent issue of his foundry, and we all accordingly adjourned to the courtyard of Mr. Sealsmiller's house, which offered the best advantages for the object in view. A carpet was brought out and spread upon the ground, on which his Majesty seated himself, and he also bade M. Lejean be seated on the same. The remainder of us squatted down where we could find room, Europeans occupying the inner circle. The mortar was brought out and placed, though not fastened, in its carriage; when it was duly loaded and primed Mr. Bender was deputed to fire it. The trial, on the whole, was very successful, though, as the mortar had not been fastened, it kicked to such an extent as to fly a few feet out of its carriage, to the imminent danger of Mr. Bender. While these bombs were being fired, the King seemed buried in deep thought; his head was bent, he spoke to no one about him; I did not see that he opened his lips at all. I had begun to watch him curiously, and I was much struck by this profoundly-meditative expression that had come on him. The fit lasted until the experiments had ceased; he then looked round, and, fixing his eyes sharply on one who sat near him, fell into animated conversation on the subject of artillery. All the Europeans joined in this conversation. The King said that he desired to have still larger bombs made, for which purpose he would build them extensive workshops, and supply, to any amount they wished, the metal required in their manufacture.

MR. CONSUL CAMERON.

The continued imprisonment of Mr. Cameron has been the pivot upon which the public recognition of the tyranny of Theodore has turned, and yet it has been suspected that to Mr. Cameron's own want of tact or unnecessary self-assertion the blame of his imprisonment may be attributed. In truth, it required extraordinary shrewdness and patience to deal with a mad fanatic like the Abyssinian usurper; and the very terms of his despatches, letters, and appeals are sufficient to show that Theodore, who claims to be the direct descendant of David (it is supposed through Solomon and the Queen of Sheba), is as insane as any half-taught savage would be who had suddenly risen to the height of power which has become his in so short a career.



CONSUL CAMERON, ONE OF THE CAPTIVES IN ABYSSINIA.

Perhaps, presuming on the influence formerly exercised by Bell and Plowden, who were the friends and advisers of Theodore during his early struggles, Mr. Cameron ventured an attempt to control the policy of the Emperor, not sufficiently realising the fact that he had established his own policy by that time from Shoa to Matemna and from Eoiam to Hamazin. It is all conjecture, however, at present; and though the Patriarch in Jerusalem, in his appeal to the tyrant, tacitly admits the guilt of the captives and implores their pardon, this is no evidence of any real fault having been committed, since it is the only way to gain a hearing without exciting the Emperor to one of his fits of ungovernable fury. There are twenty-six Europeans connected with Mr. Rassam, and the European workmen, with their wives and children, number thirty-five; there are therefore sixty-one souls in the power of Theodore. Most of the captives were not only "hedge round" and guarded closely, but manacled and chained. Even when they were for a short time last year set at liberty, after sixteen months' confinement, and tried to quit the rocky heights of Amba Magdala, they were compelled to remain two days at the foot of the hill to regain strength, and many of them were almost helplessly feeble. For some time past the party connected with Mr. Rassam have been better treated than the rest; they have not been chained, and have been allowed to move about the precincts of the prison. The workmen, on the contrary, have been thrown into the common gaol and heavily fettered.

The charges brought against the captives by the Emperor are many of them so absurd that they would be laughable but for the fact of their being sufficient to induce this bloodthirsty lunatic to keep so many persons in suffering for wearisome months. The offence of Consul Cameron was that "he went to the Turks, who do not love the Emperor, and before whom he insulted and lowered him." Rather vague, this, when we learn that a Frenchman named Bardel is kept in prison because he did not make Theodore acquainted with the Emperor of the French, and because in the Emperor's Court, on being refused release, "he ungirded himself and covered his head with his robe"—an action, perhaps, believed by the unfortunate prisoner to be a good dumb show of profound grief, but regarded by the Abyssinians as a deadly insult.

Still more ridiculous is the charge against Mr. Kerens. He had taken with him a carpet of a very common French pattern, representing a sporting Turk and a highly-sensational Frenchman in the act of shooting a lion. This design, which the innocent traveller probably thought would arouse the lively admiration of the natives, the fanatic Emperor immediately allegorised, and nothing would convince him that it had not a political meaning. The lion represented Abyssinia, which was to be hunted or destroyed by France and Turkey. These are the principal charges: the rest of the prisoners are included under one general condemnation for "abusing the Emperor," when a friend ought to be a shield to his friend, and the Europeans should have shielded him. It will be seen, therefore, how useless it is to argue or treat by means of an embassy a man who since he has risen to power seems to have lost his reason and to be utterly indifferent to justice or the consequences of his tyranny. After the three days' liberation of the prisoners they were seized again, on the pretence that they had not waited on the Emperor "to make reconciliation"; but, as it would appear, because Theodore wanted a ransom consisting not only of tools, machinery, and steam-engines, but of gunners, smiths, and workmen who would teach his people how to use them. It is this strange contradiction of character—this union of the worst vices of savagery with the appreciation of the benefits of material civilisation—that makes it impossible to deal with Theodore except by force of arms; and will pretty easily explain the difficulties that beset the English Consul.

NEW SPIRITUAL PEER.—The Right Rev. Dr. T. L. Claughton, who was recently consecrated Bishop of Rochester, becomes entitled to a seat in the House of Lords in consequence of the death of the Bishop of Lichfield, and is capacity of junior bishop will have to attend each sitting of the House for the purpose of reading prayers, thus relieving the Bishop of Chester of the duty. The new Bishop of Lichfield will be without a seat until a vacancy arises in a diocese other than Canterbury, York, London, Durham, or Winchester. This arrangement takes place under the Act of Parliament constituting a bishopric of Manchester.

Foreign Intelligence.

THE ROMAN QUESTION.

The storm in Italy has passed away for the present. France, determined to maintain the September Convention, assembled an army and fleet at Toulon, and intimated to the Italian Government that if it did not, or could not, fulfil its obligation to protect the Pope, France would be under the necessity of undertaking the duty and of sending a fresh expedition to that city. On this the Florence Cabinet gave assurances which satisfied the Emperor Napoleon, and the departure of the expedition was countermanded. In reference to this matter the *Moniteur* says:—

In presence of the aggression of which the Pontifical States have been the object on the part of the revolutionary bands who have crossed the Papal frontier, the French Government had formed the resolution to send an expeditionary corps to Civita Vecchia. The measure was in process of accomplishment; for, with a due regard for its duty, its dignity, and its honour, the Government could not expose itself to seeing the signature of France which is affixed to the Convention of Sept. 15, 1851, violated or misapprehended. The Italian Cabinet, however, categorically declared to the Government of the Emperor that all necessary measures have been adopted to prevent the invasion of the Pontifical States and to render the Convention entirely efficacious. In consequence of those communications the Emperor has given orders to stop the embarkation of the troops.

Simultaneously with these events, after what is described as a severe encounter at Nerola, and the junction between the routed bands under Menotti Garibaldi and the Roman Legion of Ghelli, the whole insurrectionary force is said to have vanished as if by magic, and the Papal territory is restored to its normal tranquillity. Menotti Garibaldi is said to have recrossed the frontier, suffering from fever. In the meanwhile, General Garibaldi has left Caprera, was afterwards said to have been heard of in Sardinia and at Leghorn, and is supposed to have entered the Papal States. We find in a Genoa journal, the *Movimento*, some hurriedly-written details of Garibaldi's escape. Caprera was kept in a state of siege by the Italian commander; but two young men appear to have gone to the island of Maddalena, opposite Caprera, and to have hidden themselves in the woods until they succeeded in getting a small battered boat which had escaped the notice of the cruisers. Garibaldi appears to have got into this boat alone on the night of the 15th, and, rowing himself, to have arrived on the morning of the 16th off Vada. At six o'clock in the evening he risked a landing, which the marshy soil made dangerous, and reached a Tuscan village. Here the General, in a postchaise, with some friends who had assisted in arranging his escape, galloped off towards the Roman frontier.

Signor Rattazzi having resigned, General Cialdini has been intrusted with the task of forming an Administration. It is rumoured that the new Cabinet will be constituted as follows:—General Cialdini, Minister of War and Foreign Affairs; General Durando, Minister of the Interior; Signor Depretis, Minister of Finance; Signor Vigliani, Minister of Justice; Signor Messedaglia, Minister of Public Instruction; Signor Rudini, Minister of Agriculture; Signor Corrente, Minister of Public Works; Signor Cugia, Minister of Marine. Nothing certain, however, has at present transpired.

FRANCE.

The Emperor of Austria, after a short visit to the tombs of his paternal ancestors, the Dukes of Lorraine, at Nancy, left that city early on Wednesday morning for Paris. His Majesty reached the Strasbourg railway station about three in the afternoon, where he was met by the Emperor Napoleon, and conducted to the Elysée, passing through the Boulevards to the Madeleine, la Rue Royale, la Place de la Concorde, and the Champs Elysées.

Public opinion generally supports the Emperor in the course he has taken on the Roman question, though the Opposition journals were strongly opposed to a renewed occupation of the Papal territory.

SPAIN.

The Minister of Finance has issued a decree reducing the Customs duty upon foreign agricultural implements to 1 per cent in Spanish bottoms, and one fifth more in foreign bottoms. Señor Baranzana has published a decree respecting the issue of mortgage bonds, which has produced a favourable impression. The floating debt is to be reduced, and the Minister furthermore declares that he will not make use of the authorisation which the Cortes has granted to issue bonds of the internal debt to the amount of 400,000,000 reals.

GERMANY.

The North German Parliament has adopted the bill on military service by a large majority. Paragraph 1 was amended so as to provide that every citizen of the Confederation is liable to serve, without the option of finding a substitute, except in the case of members of reigning families, as well as of the houses of mediatised Princes and of those who formerly possessed the prerogatives of the States of the Empire or who are freed by special treaties or special rights from liability to military service. The Postal Bill was also passed with some modifications—among others, an amendment of Herr Wiggers providing for the inviolability of letters, which was adopted by 135 against 94 votes. The bill abolishing the restriction on working men's coalitions was definitely passed.

The Berlin *Official Gazette* says:—"The foreign press publishes a statement that the Florence Cabinet, as also the Italian party of action, were, by means of a distinct assent on the part of Prussia, induced, the latter to go to Rome, and the former to prepare to subsequently participate in the same enterprise. With reference to this statement, we hereby declare officially that the Italian Government never expressed a wish for such an assent, either directly or indirectly, and that therefore such a wish could neither have been complied with nor refused."

The Minister of Marine at Berlin has decided that the German federal fleet shall consist of ten iron-clad frigates, ten ironclads for the defence of the coasts and harbours, eight screw-corvettes of 28 guns each, six of 16, four steam despatch boats, four transports, one frigate, two brigs, and two training-ships. Beyond the cost already incurred, the construction of these vessels will require a further sum of thirty million thalers.

Prince Hohenlohe has announced to the Bavarian Chambers that Prussia's terms in reference to the Zollverein must be agreed to. Bavaria had no option but either to accept those terms or to place herself in a position which would have been akin to ruin. Wisely, she goes with Prussia, and another step towards perfect German unity is made.

AUSTRIA.

On Wednesday the Lower House of the Reichsrath adopted the provisional marriage law, and ordered the committee to draw up a new bill on the subject, based on the principle that the marriage ceremony shall be quite independent of any Church regulations.

General Klapka has been unanimously elected member of the Hungarian Diet for the town of Illav.

THE UNITED STATES.

The Democrats have carried the Pennsylvania elections by about 9000 majority, electing Sharwood Judge of the Supreme Court, and Mr. Woodward as member to Congress to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Dennison. Both parties claim a majority in the Legislature.

Late although still incomplete returns indicate that Mr. Hayes (Republican) has been elected Governor of Ohio by a small majority. The Democrats have a majority in the State Legislature, and the majority against the Negro Suffrage Amendment is estimated at 38,000.

The Republicans have carried Iowa, electing a Governor and other State officers, but by greatly reduced majorities.

The Republicans have elected a majority of county officers in Indiana, but by reduced majorities.

Great Democratic rejoicings are taking place throughout the country.

The *New York Times* says that President Johnson regards the elections as an endorsement of his policy, and that he will now remodel the Cabinet.

A party of armed negroes are retaining forcible possession of some lands near Norfolk, and have resisted the Federal officers sent to dispossess them.

A bill to permit negroes to hold office has been introduced in the Tennessee Legislature.

The Treasury Department had detected that counterfeit 7.30 Bonds to the amount of 70,000 dols. had been redeemed before the fraud was discovered. It was afterwards ascertained that counterfeit bonds to the amount of 200,000 dols. were held in New York, which are supposed to have been executed in Europe, and are dangerous counterfeits.

SIR HENRY RAWLINSON, M.P., ON ABYSSINIA.

In opening the session of the Frome Mechanics' Institution, a few days ago, Sir Henry Rawlinson, M.P., delivered a lecture on Abyssinia. Sir Henry said he thought that the most interesting subject he could select for his address was that of Abyssinia, not because he had any special acquaintance with that subject—but that he meant any greater acquaintance than anyone might have who had availed himself of all the open sources of information—but that he had always taken a certain interest in the subject from its connection with the general question of Eastern politics, and with the view to what was now looming in the future he considered that it was really the question of the day, and one upon which public interest was more generally fixed than upon any other. They would, perhaps, excuse him upon that occasion if he did not dwell so much on the immediate question—our prospects of the war—as upon the state of the country, the general view of the matter, his object being to make his hearers as well acquainted with the subject as he felt himself to be. The reason especially why that suggestion occurred to him was that there seemed to be among the general public an extraordinary amount of ignorance with regard to Abyssinia. If one might judge from what one saw in the papers, there were very few people who knew where Abyssinia was. The fact was that there really was no country in the East on which he believed more had been written than on Abyssinia. In order to what was called "get up" the subject, to inform himself of all the leading features of the Abyssinian question, he had had to read some twenty or thirty volumes, and there were twenty or thirty more which he would yet have to read. There had been certainly no less than one hundred volumes written upon Abyssinia, dating from the fifteenth century to the present day; and if anyone would take the trouble to read through them they would get a good notion of the country as they would have of China or India. The first mission sent to Abyssinia from Europe was in 1490, by the Portuguese. In 1520 the celebrated mission under Alvarez visited the country, and that was followed in 1540 by an expedition under the brother of Vasco de Gama. After that came the Jesuit missions, which commenced in 1557, and continued for 125 years, with the view of proselytising the country. The accounts of all those missions, extending over thirty or forty volumes, were extant, and had been mostly translated into English and French. An account of one of those travels was written by Father Lobo, whose was the first literary work upon which Dr. Johnson was engaged, and upon which his story of "Kasselas" was founded. After the Jesuits, the Propaganda sent missions into the country, which was visited in 1780 by the famous English traveller, Bruce; and during the present century there had been a succession of French and English travellers. Besides Bruce, the English travellers who had written accounts of the country were Salt and Pearce; Bishop Gobat (the present Bishop of Jerusalem), as a missionary of the Church Missionary Society; Krapf and Isenberg, who were there in 1839 and for ten subsequent years; Harris, who was sent by the Indian Government in 1841; Dr. Beke, who visited Abyssinia in 1840 and last year; Sir Mansfield Parkyns, who was there from 1843 to 1850; Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Stern, and Mr. Rassam. At the outset Sir Henry begged his hearers to remember that all the stories they had seen in the newspapers, and, as he dared say, they had heard in general society, about the unhealthiness and difficulties of Abyssinia were all moonshine. Abyssinia was really one of the healthiest countries in the world, so healthy, in fact, that he had no doubt that hereafter all the Indian invalids would go there as a sanatorium. That was the best answer to Mr. Nobody that the troops would have to travel through 300 miles of the country, and that they would be decimated before they could approach the enemy. The speaker then explained the physical features of the country, and that there was between the sea and high lands a dry arid plain, but that was in the north part of the country, and so short that it could be crossed in a single march. Rising from the alluvial plains which skirted the country on the north-west, the mountain system of Abyssinia widened as it extended southwards (according to Dr. Beke) till it soon acquired a breadth of 200 or 300 miles and even more, forming an extensive table-land, of which the seaward edge ran from north to south at a general elevation of about 8000 ft., and presented therefore towards the sea the appearance of a lofty range of mountains. That table-land was intersected by numerous streams, which, after a short course over the plateau, fell abruptly into deep cut valleys. If they kept along the crest of the mountains, as the Portuguese did, they would find locomotion much more easy than some travellers who had crossed the streams said it was. Regarding the climate Mr. Krapf, who was the chief interpreter in the present expedition, said that in Southern Abyssinia sickness was unknown. Having quoted other authorities to prove the healthy climate of the high lands of the country, Sir Henry proceeded to define the provinces into which the latter is divided—Tigre, Ambara, and Shoa—informing his hearers that in no place did Abyssinia touch the seacoast. Therefore when it was proposed in the House of Commons that they should invade the country without passing through friendly or neutral territory, it was rather difficult to understand how it could be accomplished except by balloons. Alluding to the religion of the people, he was not sure even that it was generally known that Abyssinia was a Christian country—the only country in all Africa that was Christian. It was certainly not the Christianity of a pure type, but it was much preferable to the Paganism or Mohammedanism of surrounding tribes. It was first converted to Christianity, as far as could be ascertained, in the time of Athanasius. From that time to the present there had been an uninterrupted succession of Christian patriarchs. He traced the history of the religion, mentioning in passing that the Church of Rome had made great but unsuccessful efforts to influence the people; and, having defined the language, he proceeded to remark that the Abyssinians claimed the most remote ancestry for their own kings in the world. The Royal family were popularly supposed to be descended from Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, their son Menelek being the founder. The lecturer, however, showed that the descendants of Menelek had not reigned uninterruptedly, and that the present Emperor Theodore was not one of the Royal family, being only a foreigner. After dwelling upon the manners and customs of the Abyssinians, humorously remarking upon their extraordinary taste for raw meat and hydromel, he glanced at the politics of the country, and said that the question was constantly asked why the British Government were going to send 10,000 or 12,000 troops and 200 or 300 transports there. That was a long question to explain, and in order to do so he must first say something about Theodore himself. He was a most remarkable man, and, though of humble origin, he believed he was ordained by Providence to regenerate his country. At one time he was a freebooter, and after he became King he proceeded to reform justice and the priesthood, and to effect many improvements in the country. He married when young, and his first wife, said the lecturer, was his good angel as long as she lived, protected him under all circumstances, and humanised him; but since her death he had gone to the bad. As he was rising into power, between 1840 and 1850, his first friend was Mr. Plowden, who belonged to a well-known Indian family, and who expatriated himself to Abyssinia. Mr. Plowden was a very clever man, and in 1849 the British Government made him Consul (though the King never recognised him as such). Another Englishman who was associated with him was Mr. Bell, who came from the native service of India. So long as these two men lived, King Theodore never went wrong, never committed any

great cruelty. But in 1860 an unfortunate affair happened, resulting in the death of Messrs. Plowden and Bell in an affray with a freebooter named Garet, who was killed in the struggle; and, to avenge their deaths, Theodore massacred 1700 of Garet's followers, whom he took prisoners, in cold blood. Coming to more recent events, the lecturer said he thought the question of frontiers (the possessions of Egypt and Turkey being on each side of those of King Theodore) and French and English influence had something to do with the present complications in Abyssinia. Theodore wished to increase his power both to the east and the west, and he thought he should obtain support from England or France against the Powers of Egypt and Turkey. For some years there was a convent of Abyssinians at Jerusalem, to which the English Consul there was authorised to give official protection, which protection it was thought by the English Government desirable to withdraw. That course of proceeding seemed to have influenced Theodore's conduct, and he thought it would ultimately be shown that that Jerusalem question had much to do with what had more recently occurred. There were other circumstances at the same time which induced Theodore to believe that the English were hostile to him, and his mind was poisoned against this country by those who surrounded him. The immediate cause of the present quarrel with Abyssinia was the conduct of the King in refusing to recognise British officers, representatives of the Crown, and in that case the injury and indignity were reflected upon the sovereignty of this country. After some further remarks, Sir Henry, in referring to the present aspect of the affair, said that, whatever Government might have been in power, it would have had no alternative but to interfere by force. An expedition had been organised on an extensive scale; it was now about to reach Abyssinia, and as far as they could calculate in a military point of view there was no possibility of anything going wrong. But he did see, and everyone who looked at the question must see, that there was a great possibility of considerable difficulties arising. Supposing King Theodore executed his prisoners, what would the army do when they got there? Sir Robert Napier said they were prepared to do anything; but he very naturally wished to know what he was to do, and it would puzzle any Government to give a categorical answer to that question. In the event of the King giving up the prisoners, or their being liberated by surrounding tribes who were at war with him, what were they to do in this case? They could only wait and see. He saw a great possibility of their being obliged, contrary to their wishes, to occupy the country for a certain time, and perhaps to place another chief on the throne, a descendant of the Royal family, who it was alleged was the rightful heir. If they did not succeed in getting the prisoners, they must necessarily occupy the country for a short period; but the shorter the better.

IRELAND.

THE IRISH ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS AND THE MODEL SCHOOLS.—At all the masses celebrated last Sunday in the Roman Catholic churches of the city of Limerick the Government model schools were denounced by order of the bishop of the diocese, the Most Rev. Dr. Butler, and Intimation given that all parents belonging to the religion of that fold who send their children thereto after such an announcement, as well as the pupils themselves, will be cut off from all the sacraments of the Roman Catholic Church. It was also published that at the recent conference of all the Bishops of Ireland, held in Dublin, the subject of mixed education as carried out in these model schools had been fully discussed, and a unanimous decision come to not to sanction the attendance of Roman Catholic children thereto under any circumstances whatever. In some churches the Bishop's mandate was merely read from the altar without comment, but in many instances the officiating clergymen delivered addresses in sustainment of the rule laid down, and earnestly exhorted their flock to withdraw their children forthwith from such obnoxious academies. The national schools were extolled as beneficial to the Roman Catholic youth of the country, male and female, inasmuch as the pastors of their Church, the Christian Brothers, and the nuns of convent schools have an unlimited control in imparting religious instruction therein. This mandate will have the effect of at once removing all the Roman Catholic pupils at present attending the Limerick model schools, wherein parents are most desirous they should be educated, owing to the excellence of the system carried out for instruction.

THE PROVINCES.

LORD DERBY AT MANCHESTER.—The Manchester Conservatives gave a dinner to her Majesty's Ministers on Thursday week; and in Mr. Disraeli's absence, the task of vindicating the conduct of the Government on Reform devolved upon Lord Derby. It was scarcely possible that a speech which dealt with so well-worn a subject should display much novelty. Lord Derby reasserted the "principle" that "the best test of solventy is that a man shall be able to bear the burdens imposed by the State," and declared that he had been cheered, when taking his "leap in the dark," by his conviction that the working classes are "sound at heart and core." He based his conviction on his experience of them during the cotton famine. On the subject of trades unions he spoke with moderation and common sense. He fully admitted the right of combinations to keep up wages, and even of the strike, which are the natural weapon of such combinations, and deserved his commendation for acts of intimidation, and for the vexatious interferences with freedom of labour which are repudiated and regretted by the warmest friends of the working classes. At the close of his speech he disclaimed any present intention of retiring from office.

THE WROXETER EXCAVATIONS.—The excavations at Wroxeter, which had been discontinued during the harvest time, were again commenced about a fortnight ago. A spacious room has been discovered and laid open, 34 ft. long by 32 ft. wide, having in its centre a square bed of stone, similar to the one found in the apartment called the enameller's shop, and which probably sustained a central pillar which supported the roof. A good many curious things have been found, especially in what has been a latrine. As usual, plenty of hairpins and cocks' legs have been collected. But the greatest rarity brought to light was a small clear red cornelian stone six-eighths of an inch in length, and of an oval shape. It had probably been set in some metal, and used as a seal or signet-ring. It was deeply cut or engraved so as to represent in the centre a large goblet or vase, on each side of which, perched upon a round stand, was a parrot well characterised by the hooked beak; from the mouth of each issues a stream of liquid flowing into the bowl. Before this remarkable work of Roman art could be placed in the proper museum-case it was shown to a party of gentlemen, one of whom, it is supposed, must have slyly made off with it, as it can nowhere be found. An impression in wax had fortunately been taken, so that the article can at any time be identified. It is to be hoped the thief will now see the uselessness of retaining such a relic, which he dare not show to anyone in respectable society, and that he will therefore send it back to the museum before the police get hold of him and it.—*The Builder.*

THE INVESTIGATIONS ON THE YORKSHIRE WOLDS.—On the 14th inst. the archaeological researches in the British tumuli on the Yorkshire wolds were resumed on the Potter-Brompton estates of Sir Charles Legard. The Rev. Canon Greenwell, of Durham, is the explorer; and with him are associated Lieutenant-Colonel A. Lane Fox (late Grenadier Guards); Mr. J. H. Backhouse, Darlington; Mr. R. Wood, Manchester; Mr. Frank Abbey, Huddersfield; the Rev. Mr. Robertson, Appleton-le-street; Rev. Mr. Foord, Foxholes; Rev. Mr. Heslop, Weaverthorpe; Mr. Charles Hartley, Malton; Mr. William Lovell, Scarborough; and many local archaeologists. The openings have continued to arouse much interest, and the visits of the gentry and clergy, with their ladies, have increased. Two large barrows are now completed, the openings revealing interesting facts, particularly the first, in which a perforated stone axe was found interred with the burnt bones of its owner. This is a discovery quite unique in Yorkshire, and quite a rarity generally, the instances on record being very few. In the second barrow the body was also burnt and buried with its flint arrows and scrapers, in the usual manner. The first tumulus was 60 ft. diameter and 2 ft. altitude, much ploughed down, and formed of earth and chalk. Near the outer margin, on the east, was a deposit of large blocks of flint, and a similar deposit was on the south. In the centre was a circular grave 6 ft. in diameter and 6 ft. deep. This was covered by large blocks of flint, and many more were arranged on the bottom. In the soil and other material used in filling in were found broken human bones, two parts of urns, and a flint implement. A foot above the bottom of the grave was the deposit of burnt bones, and with them a fine stone axe, burnt with the body, but quite perfect. This was five inches long, was round at one end and brought to an edge at the other, and was perforated for the handle. The edge was not sharp, as if an implement for hewing wood, but rather blunted as if for a weapon of defence. The axe was laid just south west of the bones, and touching them, and the burial itself was made rather south of the centre. The occurrence of an axe with a burial is the first of the kind met with in the series of Yorkshire openings. The next tumulus was of 70 ft. diameter and 1½ ft. high. In the centre was a b-dy, burnt on the spot, the bones being collected and placed in an oval hollow, 2 ft. by 1½ ft. and 6 in. deep. Upon the bones was an urn 8 in. high, having a projecting rim, but of plain pottery. The urn was on its side, with the mouth to the south. With the bones was buried a bone pin. Quantities of large blocks of charcoal surrounded the burial. In the materials of the house were a "thumb-flint," a barbed arrow head, two long flint scrapers, and various other flints. The investigations are proceeding in a tumulus containing a large number of unburnt burials, in which some discoveries of much interest have already been made, but which will not be ready for publication till the end of the week.

FARNHAM WORKHOUSE.—The *Lancet* of last week publishes a report by its commissioners on the Farnham workhouse, near Aldershot. The report draws a fearful picture of the condition of that establishment. The buildings are described as wretched and dirty. The nursing staff (from sixty to ninety patients) consists of only one paid nurse, with one male pauper assistant—an invalid who has been five times tapped for dropsy. The wards are indescribably bare and uncomfortable. The aged and infirm are lodged in gloomy, brick-floored rooms, and are without any employment or amusement whatever; and the shocking fact is narrated that the late master was so cruel as to immediately deprive the poor old creatures of some newspapers which some kind person had given them. The decrepit, toothless old women are fed on hunks of hard beef or bacon (by way of carrying out the doctor's orders for a mutton dinner), and, as if to mock their helplessness, are supplied only with knives, and not with forks! The poor little children in the nursery have no toys, no amusement, no education, and no furniture in their damp and brick-floored apartment except one wooden bench. The late master exercised a despotism in the house, and was accustomed to override and talk down the guardians, the doctor, and everyone else. On one occasion he ordered an epileptic, still dizzy from a fit, to get out of bed and empty a cesspool. The man had another fit, fell into the cesspool, and (though not quite drowned) died poisoned. The master filled up the cup of his iniquities at length, and was required (by the Poor-Law Board) to resign, after an inquiry which showed that he had seduced a female inmate. The only bright spot in the history of the house are the conduct of the doctor (who has persistently fought against the traditions of the place) and that of the paid nurse, a most excellent and energetic person. As for the guardians, the character of their administration will be easily appreciated from the fact that they lock up their tramps all night in foul and frowsy cages (like rabbit-hutches), with no food whatever, and that lately this abominable cruelty was practised on a woman known to be on the verge of confinement, and when the door was opened in the morning she was found to have been in the pangs of labour for four hours. The *Lancet* commissioners wind up with a severe censure on the Poor-Law Board, and especially of their inspector for the district in which Farnham workhouse stands, for the utter negligence with which they treated the gross and proved deficiencies of this establishment.

LIFE-BOAT SERVICES.—On Monday night last, in foul weather and a thick fog, a vessel went ashore off Polurian Cove, on the Cornish coast. The Daniel J. Draper life-boat of the National Life-boat Institution was thereupon promptly launched, and was fortunately the means of saving three of the men from the stranded vessel. The coastguard men, who were the first to observe her, had meanwhile been able to save the remaining fifteen men of the crew by means of the rocket apparatus. The ship was the Achilles, of Glasgow, Captain David Kinnear, bound from Miramichi to London with a cargo of timber. This boat was only placed on its station last month. The whole cost of the life-boat establishment was the gift to the institution of Westleyans and other friends in the United Kingdom, through the medium of the *Methodist Recorder*, in memory of the late Rev. D. J. Draper, who unfortunately perished, in the steam-ship London, in the Bay of Biscay, last year. Mr. Draper at the time was on his way to Australia, in which colony he had for many years been an active and zealous minister of the Wesleyan Methodists. The Manchester life-boat of the National Institution, named the John Gray Bell, and stationed at Llanddwyn, Anglesey, was also instrumental, on Monday last, in rescuing the crew of the barque James Campbell, Captain Jenkins, wrecked on Carravon Bar. It may be added that the city of Manchester has presented to the National Life-boat Institution ten life-boats, and that these boats have already saved seventy lives from various shipwrecks. One of the boats, which is stationed at Berwick-on-Tweed, is named the Albert Victor, after the eldest son of the Prince of Wales, his Royal Highness and the Princess of Wales having granted their special permission to the Rev. E. Hewlett and Robert Whitworth, Esq., the hon. secretaries of the Manchester branch of the life-boat society, that the Berwick life-boat should be so named. Last week, also, the brig Ruth, of London, bound from Sombrero to Gloucester, with a cargo of phosphate of lime, went ashore on the Saunton sands, Devon, during heavy, squally weather. She was discovered in the surf at day-break; and the George and Catherine life-boat, which belongs to the National Institution, was promptly launched, and succeeded in safely rescuing the crew of nine men. The cost of the Brantoon life-boat was the gift to the society, last year, of George Jeremy, Esq., and Mrs. Jeremy, of Len Coombe House, Devon.

STOPPAGE OF THE ROYAL BANK OF LIVERPOOL.—On Monday the Royal Bank of Liverpool suspended payment at ten minutes to three o'clock. It is understood that the directors were compelled to take this step in consequence of the London banks having declined to discount paper based on the security of shipping, which the Royal holds largely. The proprietor is wealthy and their liability is unlimited, and there is every reason to hope that the bank will very shortly be enabled to make such arrangements as will enable it to resume business. The history of this bank is remarkable. It was established in May, 1836, with shares of £1000 each, and a paid-up capital of £600,000, which was at that time larger than the capital of any analogous establishment in Liverpool. In the following year the great panic occurred from the suspension of the three American houses of Wildes, Wilson, and Wiggin; and although this was a period of extreme trial, the shares a few years afterwards attained a premium equal to about 70 per cent on the amount paid up. The railway panic of 1847 followed, and on Oct. 18 in that year the Royal Bank stopped, among a number of banks and firms that were failing on every side. The difficulty on that occasion was reported to have been caused by advances of reckless amount to a few individuals, an uncovered total of nearly half a million having, it is stated, been granted to a single firm. At that date the number of shareholders was about 260, and extraordinary efforts were at once made for a resuscitation. These were successful, and within six weeks a meeting was held, at which it was announced that the bank would reopen on the following day, Dec. 1. To inspire perfect confidence for the future an entire reorganisation had been adopted, and it will now be an important question whether the peculiar conditions then framed with the view of completely preventing a recurrence of mismanagement have from that time to the present been faithfully fulfilled. The new deed of settlement stipulated that the £1000 shares should be converted into smaller ones in order to enlarge the constituency, and that new capital should be raised by preference shares of £100 each, fully paid up, bearing 7 per cent interest, with right to half profits beyond. Meanwhile, only 5 per cent was to be paid to original shareholders until a reserve fund should have been created to the amount of £100,000; and it was further provided that the paid-up capital only, and not the deposits or other funds, should be employed in advances on open account; also that no advance should be made beyond £20,000 without security, and that the highest advance on any security whatever should be £50,000. The shares of the bank were not to be accepted as security, the directors were to have no voice on advances to parties connected with them either by relationship or business, and the paid directors and manager were not to have any advances whatever. The two paid directors were to receive £1000 per annum each, and were to constitute, along with the manager, a permanent committee, two being a quorum, to determine upon advances or the opening of accounts, and no advances were to be made against the veto of any one of them. The contemplated reserve fund of £100,000 has for some time been attained. The nominal quotations of the shares shortly before the present stopping were 9½ to 10 for the ordinary, with £10 paid, and 10½ to 11½ for the preference. Last year they stood at a much higher point. The existing paid-up capital is £650,000, and the number of shareholders is only about 150, of which about one fifth are widows or unmarried ladies; but as the general list contains names of wealthy merchants and others, and the liability is unlimited, there can be no doubt that all the creditors will be paid in full. At the meeting of the shareholders of the Liverpool Royal Bank on Wednesday an immediate call was resolved upon of £5 per share. It was at the same time agreed that a speedy resumption of the business is desirable, and that steps should be taken to register the bank under the Joint Stock Companies' Act of 1862. The present liabilities to be provided for are £1,650,000, of which £1,200,000 are on deposit and guaranteed accounts, and £450,000 on bills that will come back owing to defaulter by the parties primarily responsible. The losses sustained are estimated at £770,000, to meet which there are the capital, reserve fund, and undivided profits, amounting altogether to £820,000. Another meeting is to be held on Nov. 7, with the view to winding up the company under its existing form of unlimited liability.

HORRIBLE BRUTALITY.—At Derby last week, John Shaw, a young married man, an insurance agent, was summoned, on the complaint of Elizabeth Highton, his servant, for assaulting and beating her on the 14th inst. On Sunday night she was sent to church, but did not go there, although on her return home she represented that she had done so. The defendant discovered that she had told him a lie; and, to punish her for this offence, he deliberately, on the day following, took her into a back sitting-room, tied her hands and feet together, and placed a handkerchief from the top of her head underneath her chin to prevent her opening her mouth. He then made her lie down with her face on the floor, and severely bastinadoed the soles of her feet with a wooden spoon or ladle. He next ordered her to strip to her waist, and again beat her most unmercifully with a whip and the before-mentioned ladle on her shoulders and arms. After this he ordered her to strip herself entirely, and again resummed his unmanly brutality. This continued at short intervals for two hours, after which the brute rabbed the wounds he had inflicted with turpentine, finishing up by washing his poor victim with salt and water. The poor girl's back and arms were shown to the Court, to the great horror of all who beheld them; and, after fully hearing the case, the Bench said that a more atrocious or cruel case had never been brought before them, and they should mark their sense of indignation by sending the defendant to hard labour for the full term of six months.

A FACTION FIGHT.—A faction fight lately took place in Penang among the Chinese inhabitants. The European residents took refuge in the fort, where the men were sworn in as special constables. They then went with the troops and quelled the riot, when they found the bodies of 800 Chinamen killed in the fight.



"CATTLE-STEALERS."—(FROM THE PICTURE BY M. LUMINAIS, IN THE PARIS FINE-ART EXHIBITION.)

"THE CATTLE-STEALERS."

THE picture from which our Engraving is taken is one of the most striking in the French Fine-Art Exhibition of the past season,

and displays all the marvellous vigour of treatment and fine motive power for which M. Luminais is distinguished. The composition of the picture is, perhaps, as fine as that of any work exhibited during the year; and the sense of motion which it conveys to the

spectator is something quite out of the way of ordinary modern art. Perhaps the beefs are a little too fine—some of them a little too symmetrically bred, and others rather too fat for the time when cattle was "lifted" on the Border; but nothing can exceed the

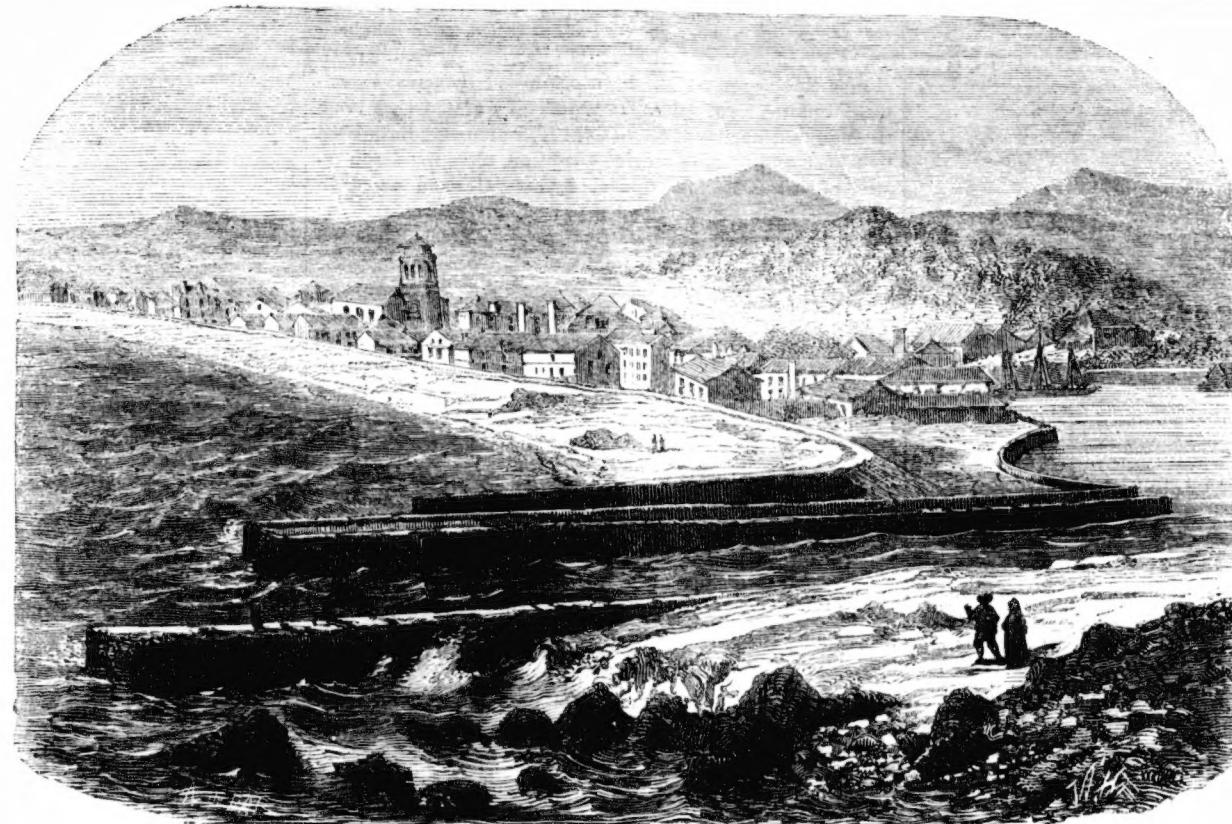


THE VALENTIA MINSTRELS AT THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

spirit and go of the beasts as they plunge headlong away from that fierce cavalry charge and sweep onwards, driven by the spears of the marauders, amidst a cloud of dust and steam, in a wild bellowing and bleating chorus with the thud of hoofs and the savage cries of the half-naked horsemen. It will be long before we see such another picture—so true to nature, and yet so suggestive of romantic story, as the "Pillards Ganlois," or "Cattle-Stealers."

ST. JEAN DE LUZ.

THE late narrow escape of the Empress of the French and the Prince Imperial at St. Jean de Luz gives renewed interest to that place, of which we this week publish an Engraving. The accident is thus described in a letter from a lady at Biarritz:—"The Empress, who is very fond of excursions on the water, embarked at Biarritz on the 4th, with the Prince Imperial, a naval officer, a pilot, a crew, and two gentlemen attached, I believe, to the Court. All went on very well in the daytime, but as it grew late the wind rose, and there was a heavy surf on the shore. The pilot, who was a Basque, and knew the coast well, made a suggestion to the officer, which, it is said, he took no notice of. It was seven o'clock, and quite dark, and the Admiral doubtless did not fully take into account the position they were in. The Empress, the Prince, and all were on board the Government steamer Chamois. When they approached St. Jean de Luz they wished to land, as they were to return to the Villa Eugénie in carriages which were in waiting for them. For that purpose they got into one of the ship's boats, but the boat dashed against a rock and was near upsetting. At that moment the pilot threw himself into the water to push off the boat, but the unfortunate man was crushed between the boat and the rock. It is said that the Empress, seeing the danger they were in, cried out to pay no attention to her, but to save the Prince. The Prince, too, saw the danger, and wanted to throw himself into the water and swim ashore. In spite of the efforts of the poor pilot, the boat struck repeatedly against the rock and filled with water. This took place quite close to the shore, but it was pitch dark, and all were in danger of being drowned. The Emperor, who had remained at Biarritz, was very uneasy at their long absence, caused signals to be made, and had lights up along the coast from Biarritz to St. Jean de Luz, to prevent accidents, and all Biarritz was in movement. It appears the Empress, when the party landed, would not stop a moment to change her own dress, nor that of the Prince, she was so agitated. She entered the carriage and drove to the villa dripping wet. The whole town is in a state of excitement. Nothing else is talked of. It is said that the attempt to double the little cape of Socoa, instead of taking another direction, was the cause of the accident. Everyone feels the greatest sympathy for the poor pilot. He was greatly esteemed, and was one of the finest men as well as the most skilful pilots on the coast."



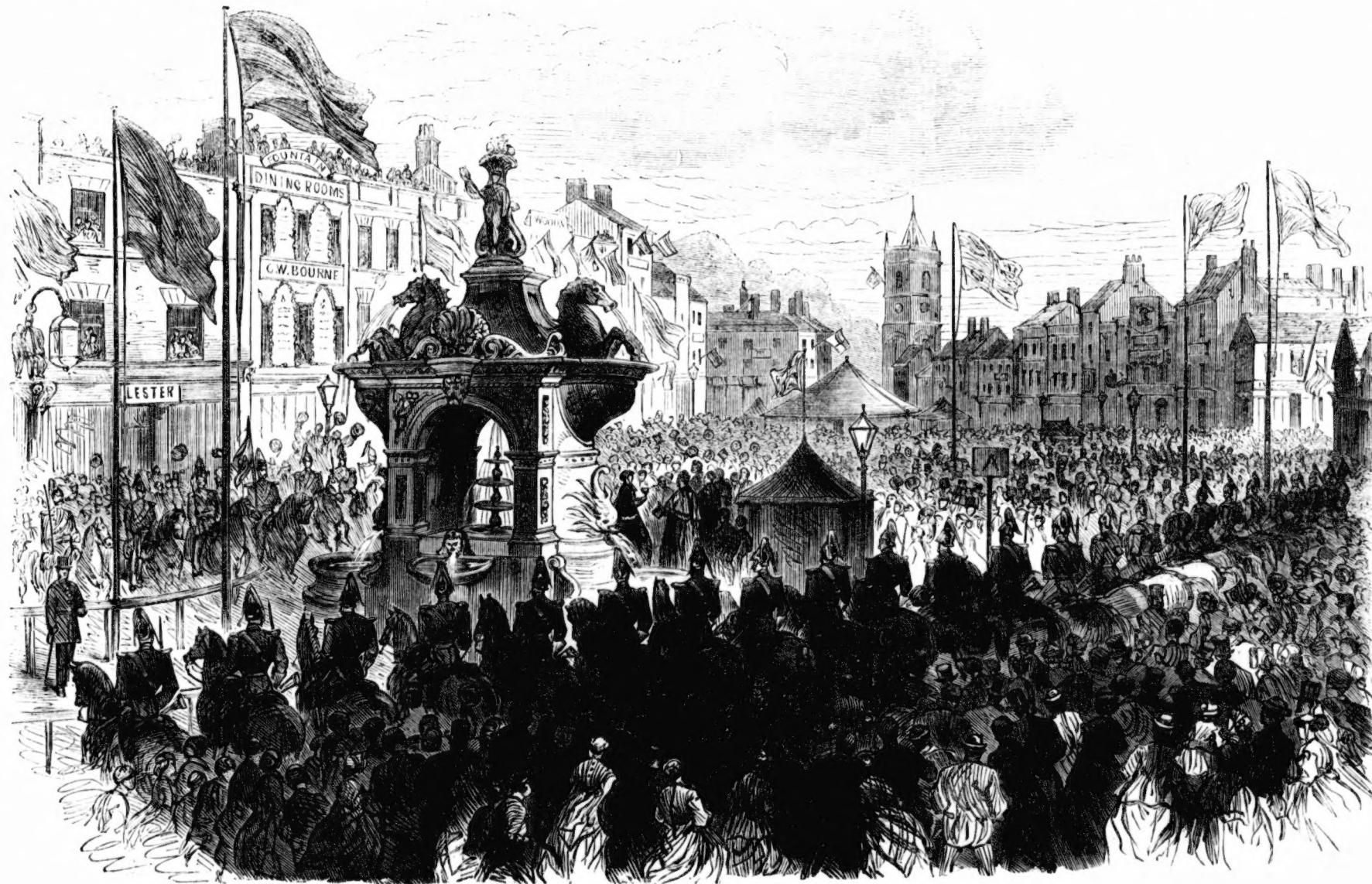
ST. JEAN DE LUZ, THE SCENE OF THE LATE ACCIDENT TO THE EMPRESS EUGÉNIE AND THE PRINCE IMPERIAL.

The name of St. Jean de Luz, which town stands near the mouth of the Nivelle, on the Spanish coast, is somewhat of a misnomer, for, instead of being a "city of light," it is one of mud. Here, in 1660, Louis XIV. was married to Maria Teresa, daughter of Philip IV.; and higher up are the heights of Ainhoa, where, on Nov. 10, 1813, the Duke of Wellington routed Soult and Foy, driving them from their fortifications and capturing fifty-one cannon. Beyond these facts, and that here the Duke had his headquarters for a considerable period, and won the good-will not only of the Spaniards but even of his French adversaries, there is little of interest connected with the spot where so serious a danger lately threatened the Napoleon dynasty.

THE VALENTIA MINSTRELS AT THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

IT is strange, considering the relations which France has recently held with Spain, that we have not more Spanish costumes at the Great Exhibition. One might have expected a great deal from a country where the people offer, perhaps, the most picturesque variety of clothing in the world, and where they carry it so well; but there are no examples worth mentioning at the great French show, if we except the Valentia orchestra, consisting of a brace of guitar twanglers, in the little corner by the counter of the Spanish restaurant. Whether these two musicians really did come from the land of sun-dried grapes and pomegranates and fat flesh melons, and pulpy figs and squat oranges, wine-skins, water jars, mules, silver bells, tags, rags, leather breeches, crimson blankets, guitars, duennas, mantillas, and all the other things which have made Spain the land of romance and

semicircular projections surmounted by two fine sea-horses. In the dome two large plates of coloured glass have been inserted, and these throw a beautiful light upon the water when ejected from three marble tazzas. The fountain also bears two figures representing a miner and an agriculturist, in allusion to the characteristics of the county. The total height is 18 ft. The opening ceremonies included a procession, which met the Earl and Countess and accompanied them from the Mechanics' Institute to the site of the fountain, escorted by a guard of the Worcestershire Yeomanry Cavalry. In the absence of the Mayor, Mr. W. Harrison, on account of illness, the Deputy Mayor, Alderman Bagott, presided on the occasion. The Rev. Dr. Browne, Vicar of Dudley, having offered a prayer, Lord Dudley addressed the Deputy Mayor and the ladies and gentlemen assembled. He expressed his pleasure in giving this fountain to the town, and hoped it would be found useful as well as beautiful. The Deputy Mayor read an answer, thanking his Lordship in the name of the people of Dudley. The president of the temperance society, Mr. Albert Wood, next addressed the Earl, thanking him on behalf of the water-drinkers. Lord Dudley replied, and then received from Lord Lyttelton the thanks of the county for this handsome gift. The fountain then commenced playing, and a glass of its water was drawn by the sculptor (Mr. Forsyth, of London) for the Countess, who drank a portion of it from a light and exquisite goblet, of chaste and classical design, ornamented with an engraving of the fountain. Her Ladyship declared the fountain opened, and the property of the people of Dudley. She hoped a career of usefulness was in store for it. The fountain played for a short time, and the company adjourned to the Mechanics' Institute to lunch.



INAUGURATION OF THE DUDLEY FOUNTAIN.

mystery from our youth up—who can tell? At all events, there they are; very Spanish-looking, and twangling to perfection to the occasional audiences who distract the attention of the captivating waitresses from the still more captivating pair of performers. There are worse corners for a lounge and a tumbler of iced drink (before the Exhibition closes, if the present weather continues, we shall be calling for hot elder wine, and none will heed us) than this little nook of Spain; and, little as we might think it, there has been worse music even than that of the brace of twanglers, especially when they condescend to chant a Valentian song.

THE DUDLEY FOUNTAIN.

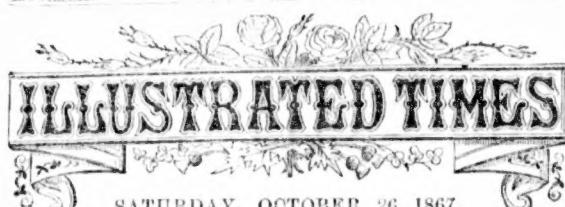
ON the 17th inst., at mid-day this handsome work of art was formally opened by the Earl and Countess of Dudley, in the presence of a large concourse of people, in the market-place of the town. The total cost of the fountain, a model of which has been in the Paris Exhibition since its opening, is £3000, a gift of the noble Earl. The fountain is in form a quadrilateral, pierced by arches in one direction, in the other by

semicircular projections surmounted by two fine sea-horses. In the dome two large plates of coloured glass have been inserted, and these throw a beautiful light upon the water when ejected from three marble tazzas. The fountain also bears two figures representing a miner and an agriculturist, in allusion to the characteristics of the county. The total height is 18 ft. The opening ceremonies included a procession, which met the Earl and Countess and accompanied them from the Mechanics' Institute to the site of the fountain, escorted by a guard of the Worcestershire Yeomanry Cavalry. In the absence of the Mayor, Mr. W. Harrison, on account of illness, the Deputy Mayor, Alderman Bagott, presided on the occasion. The Rev. Dr. Browne, Vicar of Dudley, having offered a prayer, Lord Dudley addressed the Deputy Mayor and the ladies and gentlemen assembled. He expressed his pleasure in giving this fountain to the town, and hoped it would be found useful as well as beautiful. The Deputy Mayor read an answer, thanking his Lordship in the name of the people of Dudley. The president of the temperance society, Mr. Albert Wood, next addressed the Earl, thanking him on behalf of the water-drinkers. Lord Dudley replied, and then received from Lord Lyttelton the thanks of the county for this handsome gift. The fountain then commenced playing, and a glass of its water was drawn by the sculptor (Mr. Forsyth, of London) for the Countess, who drank a portion of it from a light and exquisite goblet, of chaste and classical design, ornamented with an engraving of the fountain. Her Ladyship declared the fountain opened, and the property of the people of Dudley. She hoped a career of usefulness was in store for it. The fountain played for a short time, and the company adjourned to the Mechanics' Institute to lunch.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1867.

EDUCATION AND ITS INFLUENCES, POLITICAL AND SOCIAL.

THERE can be no doubt about it: few people are satisfied with the Derby-Disraeli Reform Bill, and some—especially the supporters of its nominal authors—are not a little distrustful of the results of the "leap in the dark." The Radicals, consistently, object to the ratepaying clauses, and the trammels and hardships they impose upon voters. They also clamour for the ballot as a protection to poor electors, and for a more extensive redistribution of seats. Whigs and moderate Liberals distrust the trades unionists as well as the "residuum," and think that Government went too far in conceding household suffrage all at once. A step-by-step course, as proposed by the Russell-Gladstone Ministry, they think, would have been both wiser and safer. Conservatives, while they felicitate Lord Derby and Mr. Disraeli on the passing of the Act, make wry faces at the pill of their own concocting, and try hard to persuade themselves that the bill is a "conservative measure"—their hopes being founded on the notion that in the lowest class of voters they are likely to find a more manageable element than in those above them; that is, that the "residuum" will be more amenable to influence, in whatever form applied, than the artisans, shopkeepers, and middle class generally. In this they may be right; but in that case the inferences are unavoidable, that the Conservative party must descend to the most ignorant strata of society in order to find supporters, and consequently that the "stupid party" will continue the "stupid party" still. For our own part, we have no fear of the working of the measure if all classes in the community do their duty, and take their proper share in Parliamentary elections and in attending to the political events of the day. The evil tendencies of one class—if such should be exhibited—will be corrected by the action of the others, and thus no one order of society will be able to dominate the others. But, unless all classes really *do* perform their duty, it matters very little what institutions are established among us, for none will work well.

One direction in which all parties may concur to work beneficially is in establishing a good and effective system of education, and in diffusing information, political and general; and in so doing they will subserve other besides merely political purposes. Intelligence is a prime condition of the wise exercise of power; and until the people as a whole have access to at least the rudiments of education, and the means of cultivating their minds, there will always be "dangerous classes" in the community, and that in more senses than one. Most people are becoming alive to these truths; and, though it may seem rather like beginning at the wrong end, seeing that the voting power has already been conferred, are anxious that Englishmen, down to the very lowest grades, should have an opportunity of "learning their letters," and thereby of acquiring a knowledge of their political and social duties. The British working man now occupies a prominent place in the body politic. He has recently been flattered, if not fooled, to the top of his bent. The steady, sober, discreet middle class, of whom we were wont to boast, and without whom true freedom was thought to be impossible, is heard of no more; and the working classes are the heroes of the hour. We suspect there is more of fear than of love in all this; and certain it is that, whatever their merits, the handworkers of this country—the "wage-paid" classes, as Lord Derby calls them—taking them as a whole, stand much in need of enlightenment. Many of them have but shallow, often perverted, views on numerous important questions; and not a few who *may* become electors under the new order of things are alike destitute of knowledge and of opinions on public affairs. To rectify these deficiencies and correct these errors, ought to be the leading aim of all thinking men and all good patriots. It might have been better, perhaps, had the process of enlightenment preceded that of enfranchisement; but the work may still be done, and it is "never too late to mend." The sooner, therefore, that a beginning is made the better.

So much for the political aspect of the education question. But there are other, and perhaps even more immediately important objects, to be attained by placing the means of instruction within the reach of every member of society. Crime and vice are almost always united, and this both because ignorant men are more likely to yield to temptation, and because in numerous instances their very ignorance leaves them no choice and no knowledge of any career but one of crime. Indeed, it may be safely asserted that our "roughs" and "dangerous classes" are "roughs" and "dangerous" solely because they are ignorant—because they have never had a chance of learning how much easier and more comfortable is a life of honest

industry and propriety of deportment than one of rudeness, ruffianism, and crime. The enormous percentage of criminals who are unable to read and write tells its own tale, and the conclusion thus suggested has been confirmed by actual experiment in foreign countries. It is officially stated that in all Germany the number of convictions for crime was diminished by 30 per cent within a single generation, after the improvement of their educational systems by most German States. In Switzerland the same remedy has proved still more efficacious; and a French Minister of Instruction has publicly expressed his conviction that France would save in prisons what she expended in schools. Of course, we are not so sanguine as to expect that crime, or even political turpitude, would altogether vanish before the general diffusion of intelligence. There are some crimes which spring from passions often developed in minds of the highest order—such as poisoning, for instance—and in the perpetration of which knowledge is necessary and science an aid. But these are exceptional cases, which do not vitiate our argument or detract from the general benefit likely to accrue from a large diffusion of intelligence. Indeed, such a diffusion would have at least an indirect influence in repressing crimes of the nature referred to, because men will be more likely to subdue their passions when exposed to the observation of intelligent neighbours than if they live in a community where ignorance, brutality, and sensual indulgence prevail unchecked. The great difficulty, however, is not how to deal with educated criminals, who are comparatively—almost insignificantly—few; but how to civilise, reclaim, elevate, and refine the huge mass of men and women who are nurtured in vice, and who run a career of crime and degradation because they know no better. The life of the gatotter, the thief, and the burglar is but a sorry one at the best. He is always in fear, often in danger, frequently on the brink of starvation. He is robbed of his ill-gotten gains by meaner if more astute rogues than himself; he distrusts, and is distrusted by, his companions; he is hated and contemned by society; and he is hunted by the police. He has to work hard for what he earns by crime, and has small enjoyment with it. In short, he is a miserable wretch, who is a criminal from necessity and bad example more than from choice, and who, in nine cases out of ten, would be glad to renounce vice and live by honest industry, did he only know how.

And that is what an efficient system of education, provided by the nation, alone can teach him. We must take the children of the poor, the ignorant, and the vicious in their infancy, and teach them how to live as good citizens ought to live. And we should find our profit in following this course. There is no class so costly as criminals. In the first place, they produce nothing; in the second, they waste a vast deal; in the third, they cause the community a large outlay to guard against them when at large; and, in the fourth, they are expensive even when caged. An army of policemen is necessary to watch them when at liberty, and another of gaolers to take care of them when in prison. Decidedly, schools would be cheaper than gaols; schoolmasters more economical than policemen. Though, unhappily, we cannot hope to eradicate crime altogether, still, if it can be materially lessened, and if thousands of beings who are now a burden and a pest to society can be converted into useful workers—and we see no reason to despair of accomplishing thus much—the results will amply repay the effort. How this is to be done is the subject of much consideration now, and will be more fully discussed by-and-by; and in that discussion we shall be ready to take a part as opportunities offer.

WORKING MEN IN PARLIAMENT.—A meeting of the Working Men's Association was held on Tuesday evening, the subject for discussion being the proposal to raise a fund for the purpose of sending to Parliament working men to represent the interests of the class to which they belong. Mr. George Potter presided. Letters were read from several members of Parliament who have been asked to become trustees of the fund which is to be raised to return working men to the House of Commons. Mr. Balme and Mr. Ayrton declined to act as trustees—the former, because he did not think it advisable to have special class representation of working men, and the second because he did not think it necessary to raise the question at all at present. Resolutions were agreed to in support of the object of the meeting and steps taken to promote the fund.

A "RIDING" OPINION.—Sir Thomas Maitland, while he was Governor of Malta, and Sir John Sewell, the Chief Justice, were in the habit of taking an afternoon ride together. The Governor had a dispute with some of his subjects, over whose property he considered that Government possessed certain rights. While riding with the Chief Justice he stated his case and obtained an opinion which coincided with his own view of the matter in every point. A suit was commenced, which in due time came before Sir John Sewell for his decision. The sentence was given in clear and strong terms—Government was consulted and condemned to pay the whole expenses of the lawsuit. On the first occasion he could find, or make, the Governor expressed his surprise to the Chief Justice, adding, "Why, Sir John, you gave me an opinion directly contrary to your decision!" The Chief Justice replied, "Sir Thomas, that is impossible; I never gave an opinion on any case that was likely to come before me as a Judge." Sir Thomas Maitland then reminded Sir John that it was when they were out riding. The information raised a smile on the Judge's countenance, and he said, "Ah! I see it, Sir Thomas; that was a riding opinion; I never pay any attention to anything that looks like law when I am out riding, and I always adopt the opinions of my companions; it tends to make the ride healthier as well as more agreeable."

THE BLOOMSBURY MURDER.—The inquest in connection with the late murder in Bloomsbury was resumed on Tuesday morning. Janman, the husband of the woman who gave such extraordinary evidence at the previous sitting, was examined at considerable length. He deposed that his wife made him, immediately after the murder, precisely the same statements as those which she had given in evidence before the Coroner. Janman was subjected to a severe cross-examination, and a good many discrepancies in his statements were shown. The next witness was Mrs. Janman, and the manner in which she behaved was most extraordinary. Counsel for the Crown began to question her as to her antecedents, and as soon as certain disreputable acts of her life were mentioned she became shrewish and refused to answer the questions. Subsequently two police inspectors were examined, and they deposed that, having made inquiries into some of the statements of the woman Janman, they had found them to be for the most part utterly false. One of the inspectors said that from what he had heard about Mrs. Janman he would not believe her upon her oath. The inquest as again adjourned. The manner in which Mrs. Janman's evidence broke down at the inquest on the Bloomsbury murder on Monday, left no doubt that the testimony against Groves would prove insufficient to establish his guilt even on *prima facie*. Consequently, when, on Wednesday, the examination was resumed at Bow-street, Mr. Poland, on behalf of the Treasury, stated that the evidence and the character of the woman would not bear investigation, and the Crown felt that the magistrate ought not to be called on to commit the prisoner for trial on the capital charge. He was then examined on the lesser charge of assault, on which he was originally apprehended, and was committed for trial at the Middlesex Sessions, the effort of his counsel to have him sent to the Central Criminal Court being unsuccessful. Bail was accepted for his appearance, subject to notice.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES have returned from the Continent. The Princess is much improved in health.

PRINCE ARTHUR is now comparatively well. Drs. Sieveking and Munk have ceased their attendance, and the Prince remains under the sole care of Dr. Carr, of Blackheath. No traces of the disease will be left. The vesicles on the face have been painted over with colloidion, and have almost entirely disappeared.

THE EMPRESS EUGENIE has purchased several acres of land in the commune of St. Pé, at Itssasou, for the purpose of establishing there a model farm.

THE EX-EMPEROR CHARLOTTE has painted a charming landscape of the park of Tervuren, and placed in the foreground her ill-fated husband, surrounded by several of the principal personages of the Mexican Court.

LORD LYTTON will take the chair at the public dinner to be given to Mr. Charles Dickens on Nov. 2, at Freemasons' Hall. Mr. Dickens will sail for the United States on the 9th proximo, in the Java, which leaves Liverpool on that day for Boston.

THE RIGHT HON. THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER and the Right Hon. Robert Lowe will each have conferred upon him the degree of LL.D. by the Edinburgh University on the occasion of those gentlemen visiting Edinburgh next week.

MISS KATE TERRY was married last week to Mr. Arthur J. Lewis.

CHICAGO is about to establish a free lodging-house for newsboys and shoemakers.

A NEW DAILY PAPER entitled *The Hour*, is, it is rumoured, about to appear in London.

THE CATTLE PLAGUE having died out, no further returns are to be issued.

MR. IRA ALDRIDGE, son of the late coloured tragedian, is announced to appear at the Melbourne Theatre Royal.

A COMMITTEE has been formed at Nancy with the object of erecting a statue to the painter Jacques Callot, who was born in that city, in 1593.

MR. HOLMAN HUNT, who has returned to England for a few months, has almost finished a picture of considerable size, representing "Isabella with the Bass Pot," from Keat's "Eve of St. Agnes."

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE NORTH GERMAN BUND has requested the executive authorities to take measures for the suppression of public gambling throughout the area of the Confederation.

THE WATER OF A LAKE about sixty miles from Huston, Texas, is so sour that it cannot be drunk. Analysis shows that it contains iron, alum, magnesia, and sulphuric acid.

A NEW MAGAZINE will appear on Nov. 1, called *Hanover Square*. It will be entirely devoted to music.

THE HOME SECRETARY is about to appoint several—probably more than a dozen—Sub-Inspectors of Factories under the Act of last session. The emoluments of the post are about £370 a year and travelling allowances.

THE ITALIAN CONSULS IN FRANCE have been prohibited absolutely by the French authorities from corresponding in cipher, by telegraph, with the Italian Government.

THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT is going to have some very curious postage-stamps engraved. They will represent the Pyramids, Cleopatra's Needle, Pompey's Column, the Sphinx, &c.

THE NEW FEDERAL FLAG OF GERMANY has been recognised by France, England, Sweden and Norway, Italy, Austria, and Spain. From the other seafaring Powers the like is shortly expected.

MR. J. S. MOFFATT, an African missionary, and brother-in-law of Dr. Livingstone, states that a report has been received at Zanzibar of Livingstone's passage through a district more remote than the place where he was said to have been killed.

AN OLD SOLDIER, a valet of Lord Charles Kerr, who has just left his Lordship's service, has come into a splendid fortune—above a million of money.

SWALLOWS in vast numbers have been caught in nets on the shores of the Mediterranean, where they assemble in enormous numbers before taking their final departure southwards.

A COMPLETE EDUCATIONAL CENSUS FOR ENGLAND AND WALES is about to be attempted by the Committee of Council. The task of obtaining the figures and other information is to be intrusted to the poor-law officers.

ROBBERIES, accompanied by great violence, have become of late as common in Paris as they were in London this time five years ago; and it has been thought advisable to augment the police force, and to establish a mounted patrol.

THE ADVANCE GUARD of the Abyssinian field force was to sail from Bombay on Oct. 5. Great dissatisfaction is expressed at Calcutta with the announcement that the Madras and Bengal armies were to have no share in the expedition.

THE CITY OF PARIS, in 1823, sold its yearly crop of mud for £3000; in 1831 the renters paid for it £6000; and £20,000 in 1845. The price has now reached £24,000. This mud, when kept for some time in rotting-tanks, is sold as manure at the rate of from 3d. to 5d. per cubic metre, and realises a sum of £120,000.

THE AUDACITY OF MURPHY, the anti-Catholic lecturer, increases with the impunity he enjoys. Last week he had the audacity to threaten, in Blackburn that, if a hair of his head were touched, not a stone of the Catholic chapels or the nunneries in the town would be left standing.

THE IMPERIAL COMMISSION OF THE UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION has given notice to persons who may intend to offer for the materials of the building in the Champ de Mars that the whole will be closed irrevocably on Oct. 31, according to art. 1 of the general regulations. Offers must, therefore, be sent in before that period.

LIEUTENANT HOZIER, who distinguished himself in no small degree by his graphic pictures of the Continental war last year, has sailed with the troops for Abyssinia. Dr. Russell is en route for Bombay, where he will join the forces that leave India.

A CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE is now being drawn up to be in operation throughout the Confederation of Northern Germany. The scheme, drawn up by the committee which sat at Hanover, by the orders of the late Diet, and which took four years in elaborating it, will serve as the basis of the new code. It contains no less than four books and 689 articles.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN left his family 75,000 dols., to which Congress added 25,000 dols., making a total of 100,000 dols. The annual income of this, it was estimated by his executor, taken in connection with various handsome sums presented by friends, one being to the amount of 10,000 dols., would be sufficient for the maintenance of the widow and the education of the only minor child.

AN AMUSING DISCUSSION took place on Tuesday in the Court of Alderman respecting the next Lord Mayor's show. The idea of the ancient civic display standing a chance of being done away with was mooted, and generally disapproved of. The Lord Mayor elect set at rest the fears of the worthy Aldermen by assuring them that he intended going in state on his inauguration day. The only question was the amount of state.

ALTERATION OF STREET NAMES.—The following alterations in the names of public thoroughfares have been ordered to be made by the Metropolitan Board of Works:—Westbourne-grove North, Richmond-terrace, and Richmond-villas, Bayswater, to be called Artesian-road. The names Chepstow-villas and Chapel-terrace, Notting-hill, to be abolished, and the whole line of thoroughfare to be called Denbigh-road. Springfield-terrace, Hackney, to be incorporated with Glashan-road. The names of Upper Homerton and Lower Homerton to be abolished, and the whole line of thoroughfare called High-street, Homerton. Upper Southwick-street, Hyde Park, to be called Southwick-street. The subsidiary names in Molesworth-street, Lewisham, to be abolished. The houses in the above-named thoroughfares are also ordered to be renumbered. The houses numbered 2, 2A, and 1, Brook-street, Hanover-square, are to be altered to 74, 75, and 76. No. 65A, Harley-street, Cavendish-square, to be renumbered 61, Great Marylebone-street.

A WORD WITH THE PREMIER.—Come, we say, Lord Derby, you don't need to be told that we like ever so many things about you—such as your open-handedness, and your oratory, and your "Homer," and your pluck; but, confound it, Edward Geoffrey Smith-Stanley, we don't like your humbug. Now then you need not look at us in that manner, as if all the blood of all the Stanleys since Joan were afire. We defy as much as we admire you. Yes, laughing is better; but we don't know that we are going to laugh with you yet. What do you mean by telling two stories at the Manchester banquet the other night? Two—yes, two—and in the Free-Trade Hall, too, which has been consecrated by the performances of *Mr. Punch's* young men. You spoke up for your Reform Act, and declared that such was your confidence in the goodness and virtue of the working men (or "wage-paid men," as you called them) that you were sure that the enormous trust that had been placed in them would be vindicated. Very well. A good many people believe this. But then you went on to inform these very working men, first, that they hearkened to the voice of contemptible leaders, and, secondly, that they shamefully submitted to a tyranny under which they groaned. Very well. A good many persons believe this. But, Edward Geoffrey, if you will allow us to quote another translator,

Had you a thousand mouths, a thousand tongues,
And threats of brass inspired by iron lungs,
you could not fuse these two opposite statements into one argument that should prove to *Mr. Punch* that you passed your Reform Act for any other than a party purpose. What's the good of humbugging? Receive the assurance of our profound respect.—*Punch*.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

YOUNG men of this generation have never known the Earl of Derby otherwise than as the leader of the Conservative party; and possibly a good many of my young readers may think that he was always a Conservative. The truth, however, is, as all old folk know, he began his political life as a Reformer. He first entered Parliament as Mr. Stanley, in 1821, as member for the now extinct borough of Stockbridge; and, having mentioned Stockbridge, I will give an anecdote of this borough, where I found, in Oldfield's "Representative History," the bailiff of Stockbridge was returning officer. The innkeeper might at all times, if he chose, be bailiff; but occasionally he did not choose, for this reason: There was a good deal of money about when an election occurred. As bailiff the innkeeper dared not soil his hands with bribes. So he got his ostler elected bailiff, whilst he, the master, carried the mace before his servant. By this expedient he could safely take the bribes, and at the same time exercise the influence of returning officer. There is another "merry expedient" recorded connected with Stockbridge, in which "the ingenious Sir Richard Steele" plays a part; but the less said about that the better. In 1826 Mr. Stanley was elected for Preston, which borough his son Arthur Stanley represents now. He sat for this borough until 1830, when he accepted the post of Secretary for Ireland, in Earl Grey's Administration, but was defeated, when he sought re-election for Preston, by Henry Hunt, the notable Radical of that day; and now, as I am in a gossiping mood, I will relate an anecdote of Henry Hunt. He, as we all know, was a blacking manufacturer. Well, once the late Sir Robert Peel so far forgot himself as to taunt Hunt with this fact, whereupon Hunt retorted thus:—"Truth is, the honourable member is the first gentleman in his family, and I am the first tradesman in mine." Mr. Stanley was not long without a seat, for General Sir Hussey Vivian, who then sat for Windsor, vacated in favour of the Irish Secretary, having, no doubt, received orders from head-quarters to do so, which order, being a soldier, he promptly obeyed. And now comes the most active and honourable portion of Earl Derby's life. He was then young, active, high-spirited, a zealous reformer, and an eloquent and slashing debater. It was at this time that he gained the title of "the Rupert of debate"—a very appropriate title; for, like the gallant Cavalier, he often charged too impetuously, and by his impetuosity got into positions from which it was not easy to retreat, as he has done many times since, and is, indeed, in danger of doing now. Mr. Stanley threw himself into the Reform struggle with characteristic earnestness. Some of the old combatants in that struggle delight to tell us how, on one occasion, when news was received at Brooks's Club that the bill was in danger, he jumped upon the table and talked flat rebellion; and he was very useful, too, in the subsequent long and critical battles in the House of Commons; in truth, in these sharp struggles, the anti-Reformers had few more able and persevering opponents in the House than Mr. Stanley. He never possessed the cool argumentative power of Lord John Russell, nor could he move to the attack with the calm solidity of Sir James Graham. These men, and other like men, may be compared to the masses of infantry which move upon the front of the enemy to break its line; Mr. Stanley, to the dashing light cavalry which hangs upon the enemy's flank, and at the critical moment delivers its charge to increase the confusion of the enemy's broken ranks. Soon after the passing of the Reform Bill Mr. Stanley did two notable things, which ought to be recorded to his honour. He carried the famous Ministerial National Education Bill for Ireland, and the still more famous measure for the Emancipation of the Slaves in the West Indies. To enable him to perform this last feat, he had been made Colonial Secretary and Cabinet Minister. This was achieved in 1833. In 1834 his grandfather, the Earl of Derby, died, and his father attained to the earldom, and Mr. Stanley became Lord Stanley. This was the most brilliant period of his history. He was, at the time, considered to be the most rising statesman of the day. A star of great magnitude, which would culminate in the highest point at meridian. But, alas! it was not to be so. In that very year the star suffered eclipse. Lord Melbourne, in 1834, proposed to secularise a portion of the Irish ecclesiastical property; and from this bold measure Lord Stanley recoiled; and then the country discovered that, though Lord Stanley was a dashing, fiery politician, he was never strong—never altogether sound in the faith; and, as he could not keep up with the march of his colleagues, he threw up his commission. As I am not writing a biography of the Earl of Derby, I shall give very few of the details of his subsequent career. Indeed, there is little need; for though the noble Lord has been an active politician, made hundreds of brilliant speeches, been exceedingly popular amongst the Conservatives, and proclaimed far and wide to be a great statesman, he did little or nothing more for thirty years than oppose every Liberal measure that came before him. After he left the Whigs, in 1834, for seven years he supported the Conservatives, and, in 1841, he joined Sir Robert Peel's Government as Colonial Secretary; but in 1845, sinking deeper and deeper still, he abandoned Sir Robert, and became the leader of the Country Party in the hopeless war against Free Trade. Lord Derby has been, as I have said, held up to the world by Conservative organs as a great statesman, and there was a time when the expression in Conservative society of a doubt about his right to such a title would have been hardly safe; but, in simple truth, he never was a statesman. In the first place he never understood political economy, and does not now; and ignorance of political economy in this country and in this age is fatal to all claims to statesmanship. He opposed Free Trade; he opposed the repeal of the paper duty, and his reason for so doing at once shows the limit of the Earl of Derby's mind. He said this odious duty was not a tax upon knowledge, albeit a drawback of this duty had been always allowed to the printers of the Bible and the Prayer-book, because it was not deemed right, in the darkest days of rampant Toryism, to tax religious knowledge. In short, a great statesman is always ahead of events. Lord Derby has for more than thirty years hung obtrusively at the tail. "But he has," it may be said, "shot to the head now." Yes, he has, indeed; but mark his words—"We have taken a leap in the dark." Do great statesmen ever take leaps in the dark? Let my readers ponder that question, for it is a crucial test of Lord Derby's statesmanship. And now I will leave Lord Derby. I did not intend to write half so much about him; but I know not whether I could have done better, for half the people who now shout and halloo around Lord Derby and burn incense before him as a god know nothing of his history.

I have seen a paragraph in the papers announcing that Captain Charles Freville Surtees, the member for Durham, is to be elevated to the Peerage. As at present advised, I do not believe that this is true. Peerages are often given on somewhat slight grounds; but in this case I can discern no ground at all. The last new peer, I think, is Baron Penrhyn, and we can see why he was made a peer: he had faithfully served the Conservative party for thirty-five years. He is exceedingly rich. Those slate quarries of his at Bethesda bring him in a princely revenue; but, besides this mine of wealth, he is the largest landed proprietor in Carnarvonshire, and he is annually increasing his landed property. Moreover, he is a Douglas. He took the name of Pennant when he married Miss Pennant and the aforesaid quarries. And then the title of Lord Penrhyn was once in the Pennant family; and, still further, the new Lord married as his second wife the daughter of the Duchess of Grafton, and is brother of the Earl of Morton. These, then, were ample reasons why, as times go, he should be made a peer. But in the case of Captain Surtees all these are wanting. He has been in Parliament only two years; he is connected with no noble house; and, as a second son, one would think he cannot be rich. It is a mere fluttering canard, you may depend upon it.

I have just paid a visit to Red Lion-square, to the studio of Mr. Rosenthal, one of the few portrait painters whose ability has maintained the position of that branch of art in this country. Amongst several pictures remarkable for their faithful execution and marvellous finish were portraits of Alderman Sir William Rose, Alderman Lawrence, Karl Verner, the celebrated German artist, Mdle. Titien, Mdle. Adelina Patti, and other celebrities. The great attraction,

however was the portrait of the Queen, which is about to be sent to India, where it will occupy a place of honour in the vice-regal palace. Her Majesty is represented in all the splendour of her earlier years, seated on the throne, wearing the crown, and regally attired in a robe of white satin and a mantle of purple velvet. The brilliant colouring and exquisite finish of the picture cannot be surpassed, and its masterly treatment must enhance the reputation of the artist.

Newspaper paragraphs sometimes read oddly. Take, as a specimen, the following, which appeared the other day in a London daily paper:—"The total valuation of Providence this year is \$5,039,300 dols., of which \$39,988,200 dols. is personal property. The rate of taxation is 10 dols. 80c. on a thousand."

Rimmel's Almanac for 1868, which has just been published, is as resplendent with gay colours and as redolent of sweet odours as its predecessors. The theme chosen for illustration is Shakespeare's famous "Seven ages of man;" and, from the "mewling and puking infant" to the "second childhood and mere oblivion," is very aptly rendered. Had the colours been a little less "loud," however, the effect would have been much more pleasing.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

Your readers may be glad to hear, Mr. Editor, not only that there is the usual activity going on in the matter of Christmas annuals just now, but that they may expect one or two things entirely new, and of unusual merit. The old nonsense—the Boar's Heads and Holly, turned up with cant—was kicked out some time ago; but the real, good new thing to take its place, we have not yet seen. Let us live in hope, however. "To-morrow, and to-morrow, and to-morrow"—yes, it is a good word, even though "all our yesterdays have lighted fools the way to dusty death;" which, however, is the speech of a bad man, Macbeth, not of Shakespeare in his own gentle, hopeful person.

As it will take some little time to do justice to a beautiful new volume, just to hand, from Messrs. Routledge and Sons—"North Coast, and other Poems," by Robert Buchanan, with Illustrations—for it contains some quite new elements, pray allow me a line or two in which to say that this book will take by surprise even many of those who had faith in Mr. Buchanan's genius. There has been some difference of opinion about certain of his poems, notably about the last volume; but there will be none about this. It is impossible to turn it over without being deeply moved—not only by the poetry itself, but by an element of personal passion which runs through nearly all of it. Briefly, this dainty volume contains immortal work.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

It is some time since such a pile of grotesque and impossible horrors were presented to an ADELPHI audience as are embodied in Mr. Watts Phillips's new drama, "Maud's Peril." The hero of the play, as far as it has a hero, is a would-be seducer of the most unscrupulous kind, who carries his designs against the peace of Sir Ralph Challoner to the extent of forcing his way at midnight into Lady Challoner's boudoir, and compelling her to let him pass the night there. Sir Ralph Challoner is a reckless murderer of the ordinary *London-Journal* type, and his creature is Toby Taperloy, an escaped convict, who is employed by Sir Ralph to slay the too-seductive Gerald. Maud is an all-but-faithless wife to Sir Ralph; and even Susan Taperloy, her foster-sister and lady's-maid, is guilty of the infamous ingratitude of palming off the escaped convict, her husband, on the Challoner family as an honest Yorkshireman in search of a gamekeeper's situation. These are the only characters who have anything to do with the piece, and a nice set they are! The Baronet is all but murdered by the scoundrel Taperloy, whom he had employed to stab Gerald Gwynn, the would-be seducer; and Gerald, who hesitated not to break, at midnight, into the chamber of the Baronet's wife, runs the risk of undergoing a sentence of penal servitude for life rather than reveal the real cause of his presence in that persecuted lady's chamber. The whole piece, from beginning to end, is a tissue of absurdities and improbabilities, and it was most deservedly, though not unanimously, hissed at the fall of the curtain. The piece is, on the whole, fairly acted. Mr. Billington (who, I believe, never has had a good part since he appeared on the stage) was not well fitted with the character of the murderous Baronet. The part is quite out of his usual line, and it seemed to hang heavily on his shoulders; and I cannot help thinking that his occasional bursts of excitement were rather overstrained. It was a most difficult part to play, and it would, perhaps, be impossible to find any actor skilful enough to render so absurd and utterly incongruous a character presentably natural. Miss Herbert's Lady Challoner rather disappointed me. The part is in many respects similar to her part in "Hunted Down," but she appeared to me to exaggerate it here and there almost painfully, and to appear quite conscious that she was acting a very difficult and up-hill character; but the whole part was so unnatural and conventional that it is difficult to judge it by the rules that apply to pieces which lay claim to anything like probability in their plots and incidents. At all events, the audience, as a body, were delighted with her acting, and she received special calls at the end of each act. Mr. Ashley's Gerald Gwynn was fairly good; and Mr. Eburne and Mr. C. J. Smith, as a doctor and a house steward, deserve a word of commendation. The best-acted part in the piece was, I venture to think, that played by Mrs. Billington. As a household picture, it may stand as companion to her Dame in Mr. Boucicault's "Rip Van Winkle." Miss Sheridan had a wretched little part, but played it in a ladylike manner. The scenery is everywhere good, and in one instance (the scene of the first act) was absolutely beautiful—thanks to Mr. Grieve, who painted it. The piece is much more carefully placed upon the stage than is usually the case with Adelphi dramas; but I fear that its life will be extremely brief. People who care for sensation of the kind contained in this piece, have seen its incidents so frequently that they have become weary of them. The plot is taken, I believe, from Charles de Bernard's "Gerfaut" and Victorien Sardou's "Diabolique."

"If I Had a Thousand a Year," Mr. Maddison Morton's new farce at the OLYMPIC, provides Mr. Charles Mathews with an amusing part, something like that in "Woodcock's Little Game," but the piece itself is absurdly slight, and wholly unworthy of Mr. Morton's name and of the two acts in which it was played. It may be taken, I think, that Mr. Mathews's admirable acting saved the piece. "The Two Puddifoots," at the same theatre and by the same author, is beneath contempt.

Menkin has reappeared at ASTLEY'S, and is drawing crowded houses. Her performance of the part of Mazeppa is a slight improvement on what it was; it is not so pantomimic, and it is altogether more natural. The piece is well mounted, but the supernumeraries were imperfectly drilled.

The new theatre in Long Acre opened on Thursday; of that, next week.

Mr. Burnand has a burlesque at the HOLBORN to-night (Saturday) on "Maritana;" it is called "Mary Turner; or, the Wicious Willain and Virtue Victorious"—an unpromising title, I venture to think.

A new farce, "Allow me to Explain," will be given at the PRINCE OF WALES'S on Wednesday next.

MR. SOTHERN'S FIRST APPEARANCE AS AN ACTOR.—Mr. D. P. Miller, author of "The Life of a Showman," writes as follows:—"There are few men but what feel a gratification at being in any way connected with the earlier career of those who, by their talent or genius, ultimately acquire fame and greatness. Confessing myself subject to this weakness (if weakness it be), I take the liberty of recounting 'the first appearance,' on any stage, of a gentleman who is unequivocally, at present, the most popular actor of the day. Some years ago, when I was proprietor of the Adelphi Theatre, Glasgow, one morning a young gentleman presented himself at the theatre. He wanted to act. Would pay a handsome gratuity if his request was complied with—only it must be that very night. 'But the boxes are out, and we cannot change the pieces,' I observed. 'What do you play?' he inquired. 'The Wonder.' 'Well, allow me to play Don Felix, and I will take all your private boxes.' His singular and earnest manner interested me. I consented. He acted—and gained great applause. Years elapsed. I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Sothern upon his late visit to Birmingham. He inquired d.d. I recollect the circumstance above narrated. I did. Thus Mr. Sothern made his first appearance on any stage."

PARIS COSSIP.

THE crisis is over; the expedition in *terrorem* has produced its effect, and the honour of France is safe. But what is to be done with the Roman question? Nobody here believes that the least advance has been made to a settlement of it. Indeed, it can only be settled in one of two ways: by overthrowing the Pope, and giving Rome to Italy; or by overthrowing the Italian kingdom, and giving back to the Pope his provinces. As our good friends here say, a door must necessarily either be shut or open. The September Convention, which has been vindicated by a few ships of war getting up steam at Toulon, leaves the Pope to the protection of—Italy! Oh! but, it is said by the French semi-official prints, let us wait till the present Pope dies, then we shall rearrange the thing. Truly! In whose hands are the issues of life and death? When the Emperor dies—what then? What rearrangement will in that case take place, and who will be the actors? Can anyone tell which—the Pope or the Emperor—will first go down into the grave? Of a verity, there is not a little presumption in this world; not a little of that impious arrogance which presumes to settle the future, that rests in higher hands. As to the Papacy—not the Pope—it cannot exist as it is; it is a head without a body, a capital without a territory. In this sense the Papacy may be said to be already dead; and Garibaldi and his friend Rattazzi were fools to provoke so great a pother in order to kill outright a dying institution. The Emperor of the French, "the eldest son," many consider as the real parrot.

The Parisians have been sharers to-day in a pale and weak imitation of the Imperial and Royal visits of May last. The Emperor of Austria has just arrived, and is safely lodged at the Elysée. There were no great crowds in the street, and little effervescence of feeling indeed. If the ladies and the troops were taken away, nobody would have observed much difference. The return visit—I express the general conviction—is made *contre cœur*. Political interests of a temporary nature may bring the Austrian kaiser into close personal relations with the ruler of the nation which has been the hereditary opponent of his house and power; but that there is any love, respect, or admiration in the matter, let no one believe.

All Paris has been gossiping for some days about the cause of a curious duel which took place, a short distance hence, this week. Prince Achille Murat is a subaltern in a cavalry regiment. You know his relationship to the Bonapartists. Something is said about an intrigue, real or suspected, with his Colonel's wife, the Marquise de Gallifet. I do not believe in this, but rather think some question of military subordination was at the bottom. However, an officer in the regiment—the Marquis de Rouget—showed Murat a letter written by Gallifet, in which the Emperor was said to be losing his wits, and the service and the Government going to the dogs. Prince Murat, with more zeal than discretion, showed the letter to the Emperor. *Grande explosion!* Rouget declared that Murat got the document surreptitiously: Murat retorted that it was false. They fought on the grass plot in front of the palace of one of the duelists; and "the respectable old man," having provided a surgeon and all needful appliances, took an interesting survey of the combat from the first-floor balcony. "His son did win"—that is to say, Murat gave Rouget a scratch in the arm and drew blood. Honour was satisfied. And such is high life in Paris, A.D. 1867!

I should like to mention, for the sake of your fair readers, that a change in bonnets is to take place this winter. The flat has gone forth; so let the belles prepare. The things laid on the crown of the head, without ceasing to be microscopic, and thus still giving plenty of room to the false chignon, will assume the form of a diadem in the front, which will be an advantage to ladies having low foreheads. A long veil connected with the side lappets will go over the head, falling into two parts in the middle, and thence will descend backwards over the dress and petticoat. This is Bretonne, and will be pretty.

La Signora Patti is probably going to get married. This modern St. Cecilia has published what the Americans call "a card," on which she says that, without violating propriety, she may announce that she does not intend to marry; in fact, that she is already wedded—to Art! What a host of offers Adelina must have been pestered with! But in these cases a woman always marries some one man to get rid of the rest, and he possibly not a suitor at all.

There have been serious bread riots in Brittany.

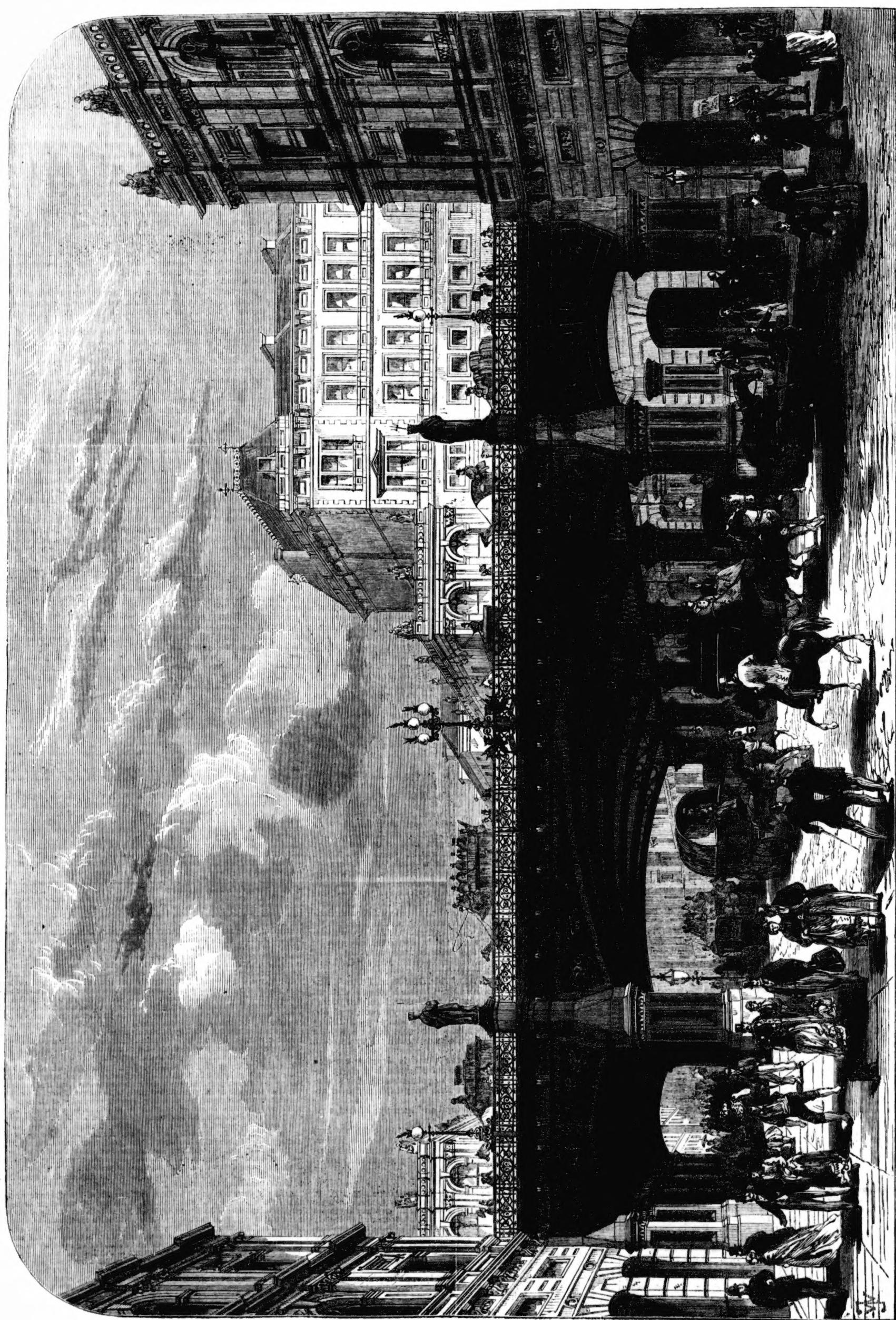
PRINTERS' ALMSHOUSES.—The council of the Printers' Pension Corporation, considering it indispensably necessary to enlarge the almshouses at Wood-green, have resolved on establishing a distinct fund for the purpose of erecting a wing to the present building, which will incur an outlay of about 1000 gs. The present asylum is only capable of accommodating twelve inmates, vacancies therein but seldom occur, and several necessitous persons are now waiting for admission. The almshouse fund is barely sufficient to meet the payment of the allowances and keep the present building in tenable repair, and to meet the pressing need of additional room a special exertion is necessary to be made.

EXPECTED STAR SHOWERS.—Mr. A. S. Herschel, in an article on November meteors, states that he expects a very large star shower on the 14th of next month, but unfortunately, at half-past seven a.m., a few minutes before sunrise at Greenwich, it will cross the median line; and at about nine o'clock a.m., when the sun is fairly risen in Britain, supposing that the course of the meteoric stream keeps its appointed place, the earth's passage across the current will be complete, and the rain of the fire-balls and falling-stars, should its return be punctual, will cease. During the night preceding and that following the height of the shower no doubt many meteors will be seen.

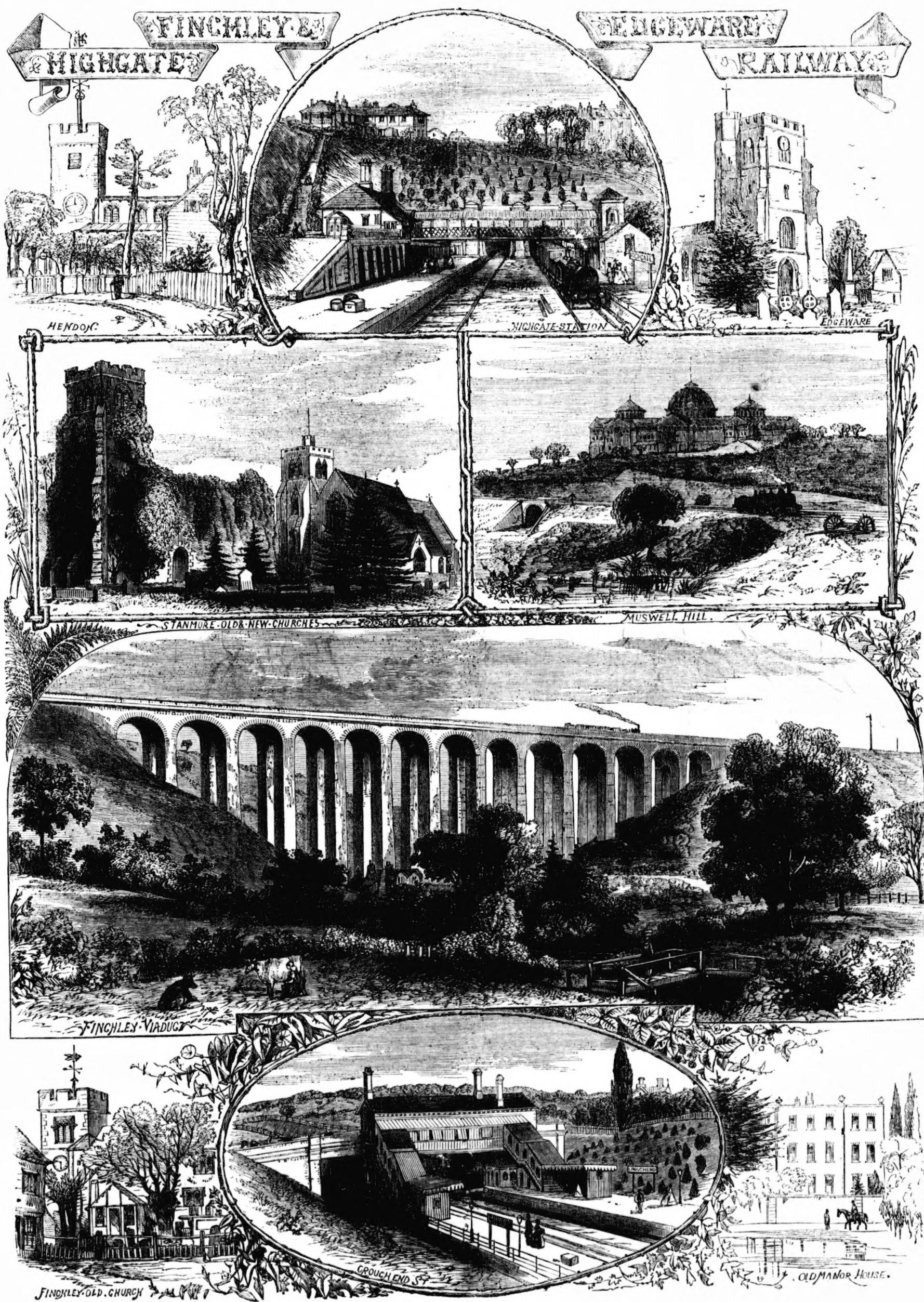
INVALID PRISONS.—The principal establishments for the accommodation of invalid convicts in England are situated at Woking and Broadmoor, the latter being specially appropriated to lunatic convicts. During the past year 444 persons were received at Woking from Government convict prisons, and 20 from county and borough prisons; and a total of 946 were treated during the year, 44 deaths having occurred. These prisoners are employed as shoemakers, tailors, washers, bookbinders, knitters, and oakum-pickers, and the sum realised from this work during the year amounted collectively to £1130. A certain number are also employed on a farm connected with this establishment, and a total sum of £1936 was earned by invalids employed as carpenters, painters, smiths, &c. This prison costs an annual sum of £24,379 net expenditure. Many of the convicts are bedridden, most of them suffer from old diseases of a very serious and incurable nature, and it has been and still is the custom to remove prisoners suffering from slight ailments to the prison at Dartmoor. The Broadmoor asylum is visited constantly by the Governor of Woking prison, is under the immediate charge of a chief warden, and contains throughout the year an average daily list of 88 prisoners. A sum of £2500 was earned by convicts here during the past year, which was gained chiefly in labour connected with a new wing for female convicts now in course of erection. During 1866, 126 prisoners were discharged on license, and of these 44 were assisted by the Prisoners' Aid Society in London, and 15 by provincial societies.

CAUSES OF DEAF-DUMBNESS.—Dr. Peet, Superintendent of the New York Institution for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb, assigns the following as the most probable remote causes for congenital deaf-dumbness:—1. Unequal ages of the parents, especially where the mother is older than the father, or advanced age of either parent, especially of the mother. 2. Ill-health and feeble constitution in one or both parents, especially where there is a hereditary tendency to scrofula. 3. Impairment of the reproductive power, especially in the father, through early dissipation or bad habits. 4. Intermarriages of blood relations. 5. Causes operating during gestation, through the excited imagination or nervous sensibility of the mother. 6. Ill-health of the mother during gestation, or physical accident during that period. 7. Intemperance in one or both parents about the time of conception. 8. The influence of unhealthy occupations, bad water, inferior diet, or damp dwellings of the parents on their offspring. 9. Direct hereditary transmission.

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL.—The Dean and Chapter of Lincoln have undertaken the restoration of the beautiful woodwork of the choir of their cathedral, considered by Pugin to be unrivalled both for variety of design and for accuracy of workmanship. One portion, on the south side, is completed; and the change effected by the removal of the ugly high pew-fronts that had been added to the old stalls and benches is marvellous, and makes one anxious to see the improvement carried on through the whole choir. The work has been intrusted to Messrs. Rattee and Kett, of Cambridge, who have done their part so well that it requires a man to practise eye to distinguish the new carving from the old. The present Chapter has entirely suspended the scraping of the exterior stonework, which caused such severe animadversion some time since, and has employed the funds at its disposal in a more legitimate manner, in the careful rebuilding of the pinnacles of the western towers, which had become so decayed as to be in danger of falling. The tesselated Roman pavement, discovered some years since in the cloister, and which had been almost destroyed by damp, is being removed to a place of greater safety; and the hideous red-brick shed which covered t is about to be pulled down.



THE HOLBORN VALLEY IMPROVEMENTS.



THE HOLBORN VALLEY IMPROVEMENT.

On Monday the Lord Mayor (Sir Thomas Gabriel), accompanied by the whole of the committee of the Court of Common Council for Public Improvement, of which Mr. Deputy Fry is chairman, assembled at Guildhall, and went thence to make an official inspection of the extensive works which are now being carried out, under the auspices and at the sole cost of the Corporation of London, for bridging over Holborn Valley and forming several lateral streets for the accommodation of the traffic and the public convenience in other respects. Some notion of the nature and extent of these works may be formed when it is stated that they are estimated to cost about £1,500,000; but of that sum the Corporation expect to recoup themselves to the amount of from £500,000 to £600,000 or £700,000 by the sale of land for building purposes on each side of the new thoroughfare and of the radiating streets which are being formed in connection with it. For the purposes of this great public improvement, the whole of the houses and shops on the south side of Skinner-street, Snow-hill, extending from the Old Bailey to Farringdon-street, and thence to the summit of Holborn-hill, have been taken down; while those on the northern side, throughout the whole of that distance, are condemned to demolition; and the Corporation has had, and will still have, to pay enormous sums by way of compensation to the owners and occupiers—for example, in one case the compensation awarded amounted to about £30,000.

The works now in progress consist of a stately and substantial viaduct across the Holborn valley, between Hatton-garden and the western end of Newgate-street, and two side streets connecting the upper with the lower or Farringdon-street level. Both these side streets are on the north side of the present line of Holborn and Skinner-street, Snow-hill. By an Act of last Session power is given to the Corporation to make a new street from a part of Holborn-hill opposite Hatton-garden, and passing thence by the back of St. Andrew's Church into Shoe-lane, which will be widened as far as Stonecutter-street. Thence a new line of street, 50 ft. wide and with easy gradients, will be formed to the eastern end of Fleet-street, near to its junction with Farringdon-street. The viaduct across Holborn valley will be 80 ft. wide, and will commence at the western end of Newgate-street, from which it will be carried in a straight line to the further side of Farringdon-street, occupying nearly the whole of the space which now or recently formed Skinner-street, as well as a large portion of the sites of the houses on that line of thoroughfare. It will also include a part of the churchyard of St. Sepulchre at the top of Snow-hill. From Farringdon-street, westward, it will be carried by a gentle curve to the end of Hatton-garden, occupying the sites of the houses which formerly stood on the southern side of Holborn-hill, the largest part of the present roadway there, and a portion of the churchyard of St. Andrew's, Holborn. From Newgate-street to the entrance of St. Sepulchre's Church the gradient will be so easy as to be hardly perceptible, and at that point the eastern-approach street from Farringdon-road will join the viaduct on its northern side. From St. Sepulchre's Church to Farringdon-street the gradient will be 1 in 153, and from Farringdon-street to Hatton-garden 1 in 143. For all purposes of traffic, therefore, the viaduct may be said to be level.

Farringdon-street is being crossed by a cast-iron bridge of an ornamental character, consisting of a centre and two side arches, supported by piers of polished granite. At each corner of the bridge there will be flights of steps for foot-passengers to pass between the upper and the lower levels. They will be well lighted and ventilated, and the space beneath will be disposed in shops and warehouses, while the floors above will be eligible for offices or for general commercial purposes. An attempt has been made to give the bridge a more ornamental character than any other cast-iron structure in the metropolis. Beneath the footways of the viaduct on each side there will be commodious vaultage for the houses on each side of the roadway. Outside the vaults there will be a subway for the gas and water pipes, and over the space between each subway, forming the centre of the viaduct, the roadway will be carried on a series of arches. At the point next to Farringdon-street the footway vaults will be disposed in three tiers on each side of the road, and will gradually diminish, both eastwards and westwards, until, at Hatton-garden and at Newgate-street, there will be but one tier. The subways will be about 11½ ft. high, on an average, by 7 ft. wide; and in Farringdon-street and Shoe-lane the connection between the pipes in the subways and the viaduct will be effected by means of a vertical shaft. The subways are being constructed of brick, except that part of them which passes over the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway, which will be of iron. In each subway provision is made for water, gas, and telegraph pipes, which will be so placed that the joints can be inspected and repairs made without difficulty. The water-pipes, being the bulkiest and the heaviest of the three, will be borne on rests placed on the ground level, and the gas and telegraph pipes will be carried on cast-iron brackets. There is room for the pipes of two, three, or four telegraph companies side by side. The part of the subway nearest the carriage-way is reserved for persons who may have business there walking and moving about, and there will be a line of rails, with suitable carriages, by which materials of all kinds may be conveyed from end to end. The subways will be well ventilated; and at each end, as well as beneath the bridges at Farringdon-street and Shoe-lane, there will be entrances to admit workmen and any materials that may be wanted, so that in any operation connected with the sewage, or with the water, gas, or telegraph, the surface of the viaduct need never be disturbed. The central vaults beneath the viaduct will be formed by arches, and will be of lofty and handsome proportions, and ventilated into the carriage-way above. Their flooring will be so level that carts and trucks may easily traverse them. They will be commodious, dry, and of a uniform temperature, and, it is anticipated, will be valuable for many purposes of trade and commerce. The entrances to them will be in the abutments of the bridges over Shoe-lane and Farringdon-street. Altogether, it may be confidently asserted that no subway has yet been constructed so calculated to afford so many advantages and to reduce the chance of accident.

Shoe-lane, which at its northern end is now but 14 ft. wide at one spot, is to be made 30 ft. wide, and the viaduct will be carried over it by a girder bridge. This lane is to be continued northwards with a width of 30 ft., until it emerges in an entirely new thoroughfare called the western-approach street, which will start by a junction with the viaduct at Hatton-garden, and proceed in a north-easterly direction to Farringdon-road. There the new street leading to Smithfield Market will commence, and the two streets will therefore form together one straight line of thoroughfare 60 ft. wide, giving direct access to the new meat and poultry market now in course of erection by the Corporation on the site of ancient Smithfield, and to the north-east of London. This new street will be very commodious as far as it goes, but unfortunately it will lodge all the traffic in Long-lane, Barbican, and Chiswell-street. As a remedy, however, to that inconvenience, it is in contemplation to widen the whole of those thoroughfares to at least 50 ft. or 60 ft. At the point in Holborn where Shoe-lane and the new western-approach street merge there will be a circus, partly for ornamentation, but much more for facilitating the traffic, which will always press more upon that part of the main thoroughfare than on any other.

The eastern-approach street will begin at Farringdon-road, about 130 ft. north of the point where that thoroughfare will be crossed by the viaduct. It will be carried nearly parallel with the viaduct for some distance eastward, and will join it, with a gentle curve, by the side of St. Sepulchre's Church. This street will form a junction with King-street, and will therefore give another line of access to the new market. The lower end of it will take the place of the thoroughfare known as Snow-hill, the whole of which will be absorbed in its formation or by the buildings to be erected on each side of it. The levels of Farringdon-street, at a short distance south of the bridge, will be altered. The street will be carried thence with a gradient of 1 in 45 as far as West-street, and from that point northwards, with a very slight inclination, until it again falls into the present level of the road.

The works, of which this is a brief description, are being pushed forward with great energy; and probably in little more than a year the ordinary street traffic will be conveyed along the viaduct

now in course of erection, though the whole improvement, in all its parts, can hardly be completed in less than two years from this time. The improvement committee, with the Lord Mayor, spent about two hours in inspecting the operations, with the progress and character of which they expressed themselves well satisfied. From the first those operations, from the nature of the ground, have been attended with great labour and unusual difficulty and complication, and yet, simultaneously with them, the whole of one side of the old public thoroughfare has been kept open for the street traffic. The site, also, for a large portion being upon the bed of the old Fleet River, the excavations had to be carried down to a very great depth. The foundations, indeed, have been sunk in some places as low as 30 ft., and rarely less than 20 ft. below the level of Farringdon-street. Between 3,000,000 and 4,000,000 bricks were buried before one showed itself above the surface of the ground; and altogether, in the works between Hatton-garden and the Old Bailey, between 10,000,000 and 11,000,000 bricks will be used. In addition to this, some 4,000,000 or 5,000,000 more may be absorbed in the construction of the subways, vaults, and sewers.

The whole of the works have been designed by Mr. William Haywood, the engineer and surveyor to the City Commissioners of Sewers, and he is now engaged in carrying them out, under the auspices of the improvement committee of the Corporation. Messrs. Hill and Keddell are the contractors for the viaduct, one of the side streets, and the circus, and the whole of the bridge, except the ironwork, which is being done by Messrs. Cochrane, Grove, and Co., of Woodside Ironworks, near Dudley.

THE EDGWARE, HIGHGATE, AND LONDON RAILWAY.

THIS line, from the Seven Sisters-road station of the Great Northern Railway through Highgate to Edgware, was authorised in June, 1862, since which date extensions have also been successively sanctioned—1, to Alexandra Park, from a point a few hundred yards north of the Highgate station; 2, to a junction with the Tottenham and Hampstead Railway; and, 3, to the town of Barnet, which lies some distance from the main line of the Great Northern Railway. Only a part of these extensions are in course of construction; but the line to Alexandra Park is being actively pushed forward with a view to open it for traffic in May next.

The amount expended up to the present date by the Edgware and Highgate and Great Northern Companies upon the original scheme and its extensions is about £400,000; and by a very favourable arrangement for the shareholders they participate in the Great Northern dividend in certain specified proportions for a term of years, the stock ultimately merging in that of the Great Northern Railway.

The railway from Seven Sisters-road to Edgware was opened on Aug. 22 last, the permanent way having been constructed by Messrs. Smith and Knight, and the station buildings by Messrs. Rink and Parker. The latter are all built of white arsey bricks, and are finished in the best style and with the latest improvements. They are well lighted with gas, and are otherwise adapted for a large suburban traffic.

Many thousands of passengers have already experienced the benefits of the cheap and rapid communication thus opened, and which will be still further improved in a few weeks, when the Great Northern trains will resume running over the Metropolitan Railway, and direct access will be given to Moorgate-street and the other City stations, as well as to the southern suburbs, by means of the Ludgate-hill station and the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway. Coal has also been brought in considerable quantities from the north to the Highgate, Finchley, and Edgware stations, and has thus been distributed over a district hitherto served only by the tedious and expensive process of carting from London or from the distant stations of the London and North-Western Railway. Another important result will doubtless soon follow—viz., the extension of building operations in the neighbourhood. Bricks and other materials are being sent to some of the stations in trainloads, and there is a prospect of an additional outlet being speedily provided for those sensible Londoners who prefer pure air, quietude, and rural beauty to the peculiar and semi-stifled existence which is called "living" in the "great metropolis."

The beautiful country around Finchley, Hendon, Mill-hill, Edgware, and Stanmore, has hitherto been practically a remote and inaccessible region. One or two vehicular enormities in the shape of "busses," and the "carrier's cart," with its incurable "jog-trot," have literally been the only means of transit for passengers, goods, and parcels between London and a large, healthy, and populous district within five to twelve miles of the Bank! Now, however, smart, roomy carriages, lighted with gas, and "tooled" into the City in less than half the time formerly occupied, will, no doubt, draw out the travelling capacities of our secluded friends; while the household requisites and numerous articles of merchandise necessary to the existence of a modern civilised community will be scattered by a beneficent goods-train in rich profusion over a district contented till lately with the mere beauties of nature.

We subjoin a brief description of the principal features of the new line and the district through which it passes.

Leaving the Seven Sisters-road station (two miles and a quarter north of King's-cross terminus) on the east, the line rises by a considerable gradient, and a view is obtained of Highgate and its environs, which, seen by the light of the setting sun, it is no exaggeration to call very picturesque and beautiful. The first station reached is Crouch-end, close to which are already erected a number of detached residences, of an extent and style superior to anything we know of in the neighbourhood. Between Crouch-end and Highgate (the next station) rises, to the right, Muswell-hill, famed in the annals of cockney expeditions, crowned by the nearly-finished Alexandra Palace, and competing for attention with that effort of science and art by its own gentle slopes of vivid green and the varied hues of its autumn foliage.

The Highgate station lies between two short double tunnels, the down and up lines each passing through one east and one west of the station. The station is approached by passengers from the Archway-road, and above it stands the old-fashioned Woodman Tavern, from the balconied window of which can be seen another little gem of English landscape. From Highgate the line is a single one, and skirts the hill towards East-end station, at Finchley. As the traveller looks back upon the archway and its surroundings, the wooded slopes of the hill, and the numerous residences of peaceful, and, let us hope, contented, Britons, he may refresh his sense of security by reflecting that an actual Baron of the Exchequer was most unmistakably beheaded at Highgate, in 1461, by the men of Kent, then in a state of insurrection, and that up to quite a recent date the tomfoolery of swearing travellers upon a pair of stag's antlers was carried on at the several inns of Highgate in the teeth of what then passed for "law and order."

Between East-end station and Highgate a second line of rails is being laid down, which will of course greatly facilitate the traffic of that (the most populous) part of Finchley. Finchley is the station for Church-end, Finchley, and for Hendon, the quiet old village nestling amid the trees on the rising ground to the left. Several handsome seats of the resident gentry are to be seen there, and the walks and drives to be obtained in and about Hendon and Finchley are, we think, unequalled anywhere in the suburbs of London. One point of historical interest attaches to Finchley. It was here that Monk, afterwards Duke of Albemarle, drew up his forces on his way to London to effect the restoration of Charles II.

After leaving Finchley the line is carried over a deep valley by the viaduct which our artist has depicted. It is seen to the best advantage on the road from Hendon, and instead of being chargeable with "cutting up the country, Sir," simply, to our mind, adds a bold and effective feature to the landscape.

The Mill-hill station is next passed, and then, by a run of three miles to Edgware, we are deposited in that utterly rustic and sleepy village with much such a sensation as the rider of Lord Lyon might experience if left to his meditations in a churchyard. Had Rip van Winkle gone to sleep here, the probability is that he would never have woken up till Aug. 22 last, when the sound of the locomotive

whistle and the five minutes' bell first startled the drowsy villagers. Edgware stands on the old Roman road to St. Albans, the "Watling-street" of ages long past. It is a queer, quaint, old place; rudely termed a "hole," in fact, by some hasty Londoners, with no soul for anything but a "semi-detached villa." Venetian blinds, a "lawn," 13 ft. by 9 ft., and a miserable plaster vase, full of bad geraniums and the wire worm. The verdict will probably be set aside by the higher court of the general public, who will go and "inspect" Edgware, and in due time awaken and generally "brush up" the place and the inhabitants. The curious visitor should ask for Piper's-green, on which, it is said, the lord of the manor was formerly obliged to provide a minstrel, or piper, for the amusement of his tenants once in every year. What relation this may have to the old phrase of "paying the piper" we will not stop to inquire.

A short distance from Edgware stands "Canons," a large mansion, chiefly remarkable for having been built of some of the remains of the original "Canons" erected, in 1712, by the "great Duke of Chandos," at a cost, with park improvements, of £200,000 to £300,000. Here the Duke lived in great state, and here he patronised a person called Handel, who has also been termed "great" by a few ill-regulated minds! Here also Pope was an honoured guest, and, with characteristic delicacy and good taste, requited his host's generosity by afterwards publishing some spiteful verses about the Duke's statues and trees, and sneering at his music and pictures. In the church of Little Stanmore is shown the organ on which Handel studied some of his most glorious harmonies and marshalled in grand procession his wondrous fugues; while near by is the spot where stood the forge of Powel, the ringing of whose hammer on the anvil, with a rolling accompaniment of thunder, suggested to the great master the melody of "The Harmonious Blacksmith."

The old churches at Edgware and Great Stanmore are also full of interest to the antiquary and the ecclesiologist, and will well repay a visit from the most matter-of-fact sightseer. The tower of the latter grown over, to the summit, with ivy and virginia creeper, the latter now in its full autumn beauty, is in itself a study for all lovers of the picturesque.

We would fain have closed this account without an unpleasant remark; but it seems the want of railway accommodation has not been the only evil to be remedied in the district. We have been horrified to see, pilloried in print, the names of several "respectable" tradesmen, publicans and others, of Finchley, Hendon, Stanmore, and Edgware, for using false weights and measures, and that to such a tune that wholesale robbery of the customer has resulted. One person has been so exceedingly indiscreet as not only to have used a "piece of iron tied" under his scale, but to have allowed himself to be discovered at that little game. *Fie! fie!* peaceful and untravelled villagers! If you have been shut out by fate from the elevating influences of the great centre of civilisation, you need not have smuggled into your simple commerce an imitation of one of its worst iniquities!

We are sorry, also, to find fault on another score, and that is the delays to which travellers to London by this line are subjected after running in upon the Great Northern line. The lines in the tunnel under Copenhagen Fields are utterly insufficient for the plethora of traffic that is continually poured upon them, and the result is that long and vexatious delays are occasioned. The Great Northern line seems to have more traffic than it can accommodate; and it would be wise in the directors to immediately obtain power to drive a second tunnel, in order to meet the requirements of their numerous and increasing customers. While matters remain in their present state, with half a dozen or more trains accumulated at the down end of the tunnel, as not unfrequently happens, a grave responsibility rests with the Great Northern officials, for grievous accidents may at any time occur. Trains might also, with advantage, be run at later hours than they are at present on the line we have described above. The latest train now starts from King's-cross at 10.10 p.m., a time much too early to admit of attendance at theatres, parties, and other gatherings which detain their frequenters to a late hour.

ATTEMPT TO SHOOT A POLICEMAN.—On Sunday morning a policeman named Saunders was found by one of his fellow-constables lying wounded in North Crescent-mews, Burton-crescent, St. Pancras. He was taken to the station and received medical assistance. When he rallied he was able to state that while on duty he had seen a man loitering in the mews and had asked him what he wanted. The man made no reply, but drew a pistol and shot Saunders in the thigh, following up this attack by beating the officer over the head with the butt of the pistol. The fellow is supposed to have been in league with burglars. Saunders is in a dangerous condition. The injured police-constable Saunders still lies in a very dangerous condition, he having had no rest since he was shot. He does not understand a word that is said to him. Dr. Paul (the divisional surgeon), of Burton-crescent, is attending him, and fears that if he survives he will have to be confined in a lunatic asylum. The would-be murderer has not yet been traced.

AUSTRALIAN BEEF.—A correspondent writes to the *Times*:—"I bought a 6-lb. case of Australian boiled fresh beef, without bone, for which I paid 7d. a pound. We tried it first in the Irish-stew fashion. The quantity was a quarter of a pound of the beef and gravy to a pound of potatoes, with chopped onions according to taste. This we called 'an allowance' for one. The potatoes and onions were cooked up to the same point as if the meat was in the stewpan; we then put in our beef and gravy, perfectly sweet, seasoned with condiments, covered it up, and let it remain for a minute or two. It was then served up thoroughly hot, and the colour of beef gravy that filled the room was something appetising indeed. I sat down somewhat suspicious, but before I rose the 'tuck-out' I had enjoyed was very gratifying. We had thus a good muscle-making dinner all round at a cost of 1½d. for meat. We have since tried it as gravy soup and *bouilli*, with the same allowance per head, and with the same satisfaction. We had twenty-four good single meals of perfectly fresh, rich, delicious meat for 3s. 6d.—that is, the whole nine of us dined—not twice—twice, and six of us a third time, for the money. Now, let a family of, say, six meat-eating people commence the week on the regular Sunday joint. You cannot allow less than 2lb. a head all round with a couple of cold-meat days to provide for. No joint can be economically cooked for anything having the pretence of 'a family' at less weight than 12 lb. To be sure, I have heard a man speak of his 'wife and family,' the said family consisting of the infant at the breast; but that has not been the case at our house for many years. Well, this joint will cost 10s. say, and in cooking it will come down to about 9lb. All this will be finished on the Tuesday afternoon, as the bare bone will certify. Let the family then take to Australia. Let them have Irish stew on Wednesday, *bouilli* on Thursday, gravy soup on Friday, and any non-starvable make-up on Saturday. They will here have rich beef meals for all six at a cost of 10d. per day, or 2s. 7½d. for the three days. Compare that with the cost for the same kind of fare per butcher, to say nothing of the trouble."

LIGHT BREAD.—The Sultan Achmet II., walking through the streets of Stamboul, accompanied by his Grand Vizier, saw at the door of a baker's shop the baker himself making very wry faces. The poor wretch had reason to grimace, for his hands were tied tightly behind him and one of his ears was nailed to the post. "What has he done?" asked the Sultan of the attendant janissary. "Short weight," replied the attendant. "Who is he?" pursued the Commander of the Faithful. "May it please your Highness," was the response, "he supplies the bread for the Imperial seraglio." "Oh! he's my baker, is he?" resumed Achmet II.; "stick up another post and nail his other ear to it. The Sultan's baker should have a double reason for honesty." And the baker was posted accordingly. Now, we have not the slightest wish to suggest that the ears of Mr. Tull, baker to her Majesty the Queen at Windsor, should be nailed to any post, pump, door-jamb, or any vertical structure whatsoever. Mr. Tull is, doubtless, a highly respectable tradesman, who sells capital bread, goes to church, and pays his rent and taxes with exemplary regularity. But the ugly fact remains that at the Berks Petty Sessions, held at Windsor on Saturday last, Mr. Tull, baker to the Queen, was fined half a crown and costs for selling a quartet cottage loaf 13 oz. deficient in weight. The printed account of the conviction says 13 oz.; but, remembering that there are but 16 oz. in 1 lb. avoirdupois, we do hope that the short weight did not exceed 3 oz. Mr. Tull pleaded that cottage loaves were "fancy bread," and that, therefore, they came under the Act of 7 Will. IV., cap. 37. The justices, however, held a contrary opinion, and fined Mr. Tull 2s. 6d., which is better, after all, than having one's ears nailed to a post. Mr. Tull probably erred quite innocently, and had not the slightest desire to defraud his customers; but still the opinion of the justices seems to be correct, and there will be no occasion, we presume, to call on the fifteen Judges solemnly to decide whether a cottage loaf is "fancy bread." A loaf, we take it, should be a loaf; and the loaf is just now quite dear enough, without our being deprived of so many ounces just weight because it is made up in "cottage" instead of "household" shape. Suppose a linendraper were to lay down the axiom that a yard of sixpenny calico should have 36 in., but a yard of eightpenny ditto only 26 in.! Surely the expense of making a "cottage" loaf cannot be so much greater than that of making a "household" loaf that the consumer is to lose 13 oz. by his "cottage." If he is to do so, the name of "cottage" should forthwith be changed to "cabbage."—*Telegraph*.

Literature.

Letters on England. By LOUIS BLANC. Second Series. Translated by James Hutton and L. J. Trotter. Two vols. London: Sampson Low and Co.

A second series of M. Blanc's English sketches is very welcome. With but few exceptions, the first was received with pleasure, and the second will be taken even more cheerfully. The long-wished-for privilege imagined by Burns has come: we see ourselves as others see us. And the "others" in this instance seems to be the faultiest of all possible mirrors; and its reflection is pleasing indeed. M. Blanc finds a few blemishes, truly; but it is a pleasing likeness of the English for all that. He does not hit very hard; but yet we feel it—just a little. Perhaps Cromwell thought the moles and warts in his portrait rather exaggerated; and people always prefer a dim, religious light when facing their own's feet whilst brushing and shaving. Such hits as Louis Blanc gives are hardly worth mentioning, were it not for the fact that he lets out how liable he is to be deceived. Apropos of the fight—or, rather, the retreat—of Mr. Jem Mace and Mr. Joe Goss, Louis Blanc comments that all England forgot its foreign policy, its Indian affairs, its monetary interests, its social and domestic duties, to watch and encourage this wretched combat. Readers will surely remember that since the Sayers and Heenan affair very few people have taken the slightest interest in the P.R. They still know that those initials mean "Prize Ring," but they gladly look upon the whole affair as a thing of the past. Some people think it fine to show a foreigner something thoroughly English; but they are just the people to withhold the fact that prize-fighting is a sight which not one Englishman in ten thousand has ever seen. And so Louis Blanc has been imposed upon, and "ought to have known his company better." His brother of the press who is writing now would certainly not have known Jem from Joe, but for the present reminiscence. M. Blanc winds up his P.R. letter by saying:—"What is curious is, that nowhere are people more humane than in England, as is witnessed by the laws relating to the protection of animals. But this is decidedly the land of contradictions and contrasts. The longer a foreigner resides in it, the less will he succeed in understanding it." Possibly, indeed, the English may be entitled to say the same of France. Is there a nation which is logical throughout? I fear not. *Homo duplex?* This epithet is as applicable to peoples as to individuals. Here, clearly, Louis Blanc has run away with himself. He makes an absurd charge, and says that the more he studies the more he is liable to be mistaken. Has "Our Own Correspondent" come to this? If so, M. Blanc had better vanish at once before acquiring fatal experience, and had better make up his mind that second thoughts are never best, and that "raw haste" is worth all the rest of the family which precedes Mr. Tennyson's "delay." But this way of thinking and talking about individuals and peoples has been for twenty years the writer's hobby; and we should no more expect him to descend than we should expect G. P. R. James's horseman to enter the hostelry otherwise than booted and spurred.

Not another word against these "Letters on England." Anything more genuine and honest cannot be imagined—of course, with allowance being made for a natural bias and an occasional misleading. It is curious to look over the records of four or five years ago, and brush up the brain, as it were, on things forgotten which excited hot attention in their day. M. Blanc touches all kinds of topics, foreign and domestic. Complications seem revived; old scandals turn up in the sunshine. The Jordan and Boncancan affair might have been suffered to endure its tomb; but really M. Blanc has embalmed and unwrapped it beautifully. That, and a few other cases, are a trifle too surgical to be pleasant. Or, having contemplated the whole series of social blots which are here sketched and coloured so well, shall we put aside the book, as the gentleman did the faithful photograph—

No, no; it is plain, there are spots in the sun,
Which accounts for these spots on my nose.

Poems. By DORA GREENWELL. London: Alexander Strahan.

Miss Greenwell's poems being out of print, we have here a fresh edition, with, we think, a considerable number of poems added. The poetic faculty of this lady is real; but, judging from all the evidence before us, we do not think it strong. Hence there is almost always an appearance of diffuseness about her poetry, and a little monotony of music. Some of the reviewers have been saying that the longest and best poem in the book, "Liber Veritatis," is unintelligible. Miss Greenwell may depend upon its finding readers who will understand it in every line, and value it too; but even those readers will be apt to complain of the sameness of the rhythm. On pages 211, 213, 217, 221, 222, 224, 225, 227, 228, 230—and here we are stopping and striking out a long row of figures because the count seems endless; but, in fact, on almost every third page a fresh poem, is begun in a line of similar length and scansion, the following line being the type:—

O Love! thou goodly child—

The first poem in the second part opens with a line of this quality, and each separate section of the poem, with two exceptions, begins in the same way. This may have been intended, but it is impossible not to reflect that the necessary solemnity and tenderness of movement might have been arrived at without a sameness which (it seems to us) nothing can justify. It is not inconsistent with this to observe that, if Miss Greenwell would concentrate her powers—i.e., write nothing whatever that she is not prepared to elaborate at white heat—she might write sonnets that would live. The want of this concentration is strikingly shown in the poem called "The Summons," which ought to have been made into a perfect sonnet, just as the poem called "In Sadness" ought to have been two sonnets. And little more was required to produce a work perfect in form and sure to last than striking out superfluous words and increasing the directness of the construction. Some of the songs are very beautiful, and it is not often that readers of seriousness and sensibility are likely to find a collection of poems to please them so much. A little labour would make this volume of 370 pages yield about fifty pages of perfect beauty.

BOOKS FOR THE YOUNG.

We have received a batch of books suitable for young people, which, though differing in character, and still more so in merit, may appropriately be classed together. Giving the *pas* to the most deserving, we shall first mention

Lilliput Luree, Poems of Childhood, Child Fancy, and Childlike Moods (London: Strahan) a volume of rhymes for and about children, which, to our thinking, is all but perfection. This is a reprint of a book noticed in these columns some year or two ago, but with about one hundred pages of new matter added, and contains poems which will really be relished by children, and by persons, too, who, though no longer children, are still so fortunate as to have child fancies and childlike moods about them. The author has evidently made child nature a special study, and from the life too; and the result is that he speaks to children and of children from the heart to the heart. Some of these little pieces, as we happen to know, have already become "household words" in many families, and have only to be known in order to become so in more. The description of the revolution in Lilliput Land is inimitable, and we would like to quote it all; but, as that is impossible, we shall content ourselves with a few verses only. This is what the children did when they had deplored the old folk and set up a new order of things:—

They made the baker bake hot rolls,
They made the wharfinger send in coals,
They made the butcher kill the calf,
They cut the telegraph-wires in half.

They went to the chemists, and with their feet
They kicked the physic all down the street;
They went to the school-room and tore the books,
They munched the puffs at the pastry-cook's,

They sucked the jam, they lost the spoons,
They sent up several fire-balloons,
They let off crackers, they burnt a guy,
They piled a bonfire ever so high.

They offered a prize for the lamest boy,
And one for the most macaque to top,
They split or burnt the canoe's bottom,
They made new laws in Lilliput-land.

Of one of these pieces, which is written in words of one syllable and lines of two words, and is entitled "Polly," we have heard a good story. A certain grave and reverend schoolmaster was in the habit of setting his pupils the task of copying off portions of verse as exercises, but allowing them to choose their subject. Shortly after the appearance of this book he was astonished to find that his boys had with one accord pitched upon "Polly" as a theme; and for a very obvious reason—it was so easy. We ought to mention that this little book is illustrated by Millais, Green, Pinwell, and Bradley; and is beautifully bound in green and gold.

The Washerwoman's Foundling, by William Gilbert, author of "Dr. Austin's Guests," "Shirley Hall," &c. (London: Strahan), tells the story of a little waif left in a washerwoman's clothes-basket in Dean's-yard, Westminster, and tells it very interestingly and well, too; while at the same time showing how such waifs are (or were) bandied about from pillar to post, from workhouse to police office, and from police court to workhouse again; and by what quirks and quirks poor-law officials do (or did) endeavour to rid themselves of the burden of taking care of such specimens of nobody's children as the washerwoman's foundling. The book, we presume, is a reprint, or is, at least, an early effort of the author's; but, of its kind, it is one of which even Mr. Gilbert need not be ashamed. The story will be sure to interest young folk, though it is constructed on a very ancient foundation—that of the finding and rearing of a foundling.

We have also before us a series of four sixpenny coloured picture-books (published by Routledge and Sons), which are very good of their sort. One set is called *Aunt Mavis's Toy-Books*, and includes two volumes at present. In one we have the history of "The Prince with the Long Nose," while the other illustrates the life of "Old King Cole," and shows how a knave of hearts stole and had to restore certain tarts—the theme, that last, which is sure to attract the attention of juveniles. Leighton Brothers are the printers of this series, which are resplendent with showy colours. The other two books have been got up in equally striking style by Mr. Edmund Evans. The one shows the life and household ménage of the *Old Courtier*, while in the other we have *The Multiplication Table in Verse*; and very ingeniously has that usually dry and repulsive subject of study been rhymed and pictured.

GREENWICH HOSPITAL AND ITS REVENUES.

THE revenues of Greenwich Hospital are emphatically described as " princely." They have been gradually improving for many years past, and at the present time produce an annual revenue exceeding £150,000! The property consists both of real and personal estate.

The bulk of the real estate consists of the properties in Cumberland and Westmorland which formerly belonged to James Radcliffe, Earl of Derwentwater, and which were seized by the Crown on his attainder and execution for adherence to the Smarts in the rebellion of 1715. In 1735 they were granted, under an Act of Parliament, to Greenwich Hospital. At that time the estates yielded only about £6000 a year. They were encumbered with mortgages, &c., which were paid off by the hospital; and at various times since the hospital came into possession of these properties considerable sums have been appropriated out of these revenues to make provision for members of the Radcliffe family. Large sums have also been spent in the construction of roads, the drainage of the district, and in other measures necessary for the improvement of the property.

The Derwentwater estates now produce a gross rental of £52,000 and a net rental of £40,200 per annum. The bulk of this increase arises from the discovery and working of lead-mines. Much, however, is due to the general improvement of cultivation and consequent increase in the value of property. A provident expenditure in farm buildings and thorough drainage has induced better farming by better tenants.

The personal property of the hospital amounts to nearly three millions of capital, invested principally in Government securities. This large property was acquired mainly under Acts of Parliament, which assigned to the hospital, at various periods, forfeited and unclaimed shares of prize-moneys and bounties, percentages on all prizes and Admiralty droits, together with a proportion of the freight-money of all treasure conveyed by or deposited in her Majesty's ships. Under the Registered Seamen's Act of 1695 it was also provided that sixpence a month should be paid out of the wages of every seaman both in the Royal Navy and in the merchant service in aid of the general funds of this hospital; and, although these sixpences have ceased to be received, yet the amounts derived from them between 1695 and 1831 reached to a vast sum of money; and Parliament, in respect of some portion of the amount, has compensated the hospital out of the public revenue for the loss of this source of revenue. The interest on the invested personalty, together with the grant from the Consolidated Fund and the amount receivable for freightage, produce the hospital a net income of more than £100,000 a year, in addition to its rents.

Great revenues are often found to lead to extravagant expenditure. This has been peculiarly the case at Greenwich Hospital. The Commissioners state that, out of its large and imposing revenue, but a small portion has found its way directly to the pensioner, whilst a great part has been absorbed in the government and administration of the institution. "Since the year 1805, a date affording unusual facilities for the comparison, great simplifications have taken place in the civil department of Greenwich Hospital. . . . Yet the expence of the establishment now is absolutely more than double its cost then; whilst, relatively to the number of pensioners, it is more than treble its previous charge." In proof of this very scandalous fact the commissioners give the following table:—

Expenses.	1805.		1860.	
	For 2110 Pensioners.	For 1676 Pensioners.	For 2110 Pensioners.	For 1676 Pensioners.
Establishment :: :: :: ::	£21,837	£18,667	69,206	50,910
Pensioners :: :: :: ::			91,043	99,477
Total				

"Whilst the expence of the individual pensioner has not been increased during fifty-five years, and whilst the aggregate number of pensioners has been diminished by 30 per cent, the cost of the establishment has, during that period, considerably more than doubled."

By the Act of 1865, which put Greenwich Hospital on an improved system, the expenditure of the hospital was made the subject of an annual Parliamentary vote, so that Parliament might exercise direct control over the affairs of the hospital, it being provided that the amount voted out of the Consolidated Fund should be repaid from the funds of the hospital.

From the estimates for 1867-8, however, it does not appear that any considerable reduction had been made in the charges for the establishment. It is only necessary to examine the items to see that, in many instances, those charges are most extravagant. In fact, "Greenwich" has been a fine thing for a certain select clique of naval officers. The Admiralty has promised its attention to the subject. For some time to come, however, it will probably be difficult, with due regard to what are called "existing interests," to get rid of many of those who, at present, are fixed on the foundation.

"The future establishment of Greenwich Hospital," wrote the First Lord of the Admiralty, in a public minute, dated April, 1864, ought to be fixed in accordance with the purposes of the institution, and, in the mean time, no appointments creating new claims for compensation should be made."

It would have been only right that this rule should have been adhered to. It has, however, been departed from, notably in the case of an addition to the medical staff of the hospital. At the head of that staff was placed, in 1865, a "Deputy-Inspector of Hospitals," with a salary of £500 a year. Last year, not only was the salary of that officer raised to £581 a year, but an "Inspector-General" was added to the staff, at an additional salary of £51 a year, raising the cost of the medical staff from £1870 to £208 per annum, whilst the number of pensioners to be looked after had decreased.

The Commissioners of 1869 instituted a comparison between the cost of an inmate of the Hôtel des Invalides, in Paris, and a pensioner of Greenwich Hospital, and they found that whilst the expense of administration, maintaining discipline, &c., in the case of the French soldier was only £5 5s., in the case of the English seaman it was £28 18s. This was in 1860. But Greenwich has since been put on an improved footing. Its inmates have decreased from 1600 to 370. The cost of administration, discipline, &c., is, however, now no less than £75 5s. per head! The following is the table of the Commissioners, with the additional calculation for the present period:—

	Cost for Food, Clothing, Medicines, Attendants, &c.	Cost for Administration, &c.	Total.
French Invalid	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Greenwich Pensioner (1865)	24 11 2	5 5 0	31 16 2
(1866)	28 14 4	9 1 3	37 15 7
(1867)	30 7 6	28 18 4	59 6 11
	31 7 0	75 5 0	126 12 0

It is needless, however, to comment further upon such an abuse of the revenues of this institution as is developed in these facts. The whole system must be revised. It admits of no excuse, as the Admiralty has practically allowed, and immediate and large reductions must be made in the staff and pay of the officers of this institution, in order to enable its accounts and estimates to receive Parliamentary sanction in another Session.

Important as this part of the question is, a larger and more difficult question will present itself to Parliament next year with reference to Greenwich Hospital. What is to be the future of this establishment?

Everybody has heard during the past year of the various claims put forward for occupation of the space or assistance from the funds of this institution. The claim of the committee of the Seamen's Hospital, who for many years have been afforded an old man-of-war for the purposes of their asylum, was unquestionably that which had the best claim to attention. The Dreadnought, or whatever else may be the name of the vessel on board which relief is afforded to suffering seamen of the merchant service by a body of philanthropists, is moored in a part of the river which, however convenient for the reception of seamen, must be singularly ill-suited for sanitary purposes. It must often have occurred to the public as extraordinary that the managers of the Seamen's Hospital Ship should elect to continue her in moorings off Deptford, when they might so easily go further down the river, or even into a part of the Victoria Docks, where both air and water would be better and communication with the shore more readily obtained.

The claim set up by the managers of this charitable institution to the use of a section of Greenwich Hospital was not unwillingly conceded by the Admiralty, and a quarter of the building (that called Queen Mary's wing, where the chapel stands) was assigned them for their purposes. The Dreadnought committee rejected this wing, as unsuited for their purposes, and demanded the use of another section of the building (that immediately abutting on the Thames towards the east), called Queen Anne's quarter. It happens that this quarter contains the apartments assigned to the officers of the hospital; and even if Queen Anne's quarter had been in any material degree better adapted to the purposes of an hospital than Queen Mary's wing, there would seem to be something rather ungracious and imperious in the demand thus set up for the use and occupation of a portion of the edifice which was not immediately vacant. A reference to two sets of commissioners conclusively established that the one section of the hospital was not better adapted than the other for the purposes of the Dreadnought patients; but this decision did not satisfy the claimants. As they could not obtain the precise position they desired, they resolved to forego the use of any portion of the hospital at all, and to apply to the public for funds to construct a building for themselves independently of Greenwich Hospital. With the aid of "appeals" in the daily papers, "festivals," "banquets," "fancy fairs," and other popular means of raising contributions for a building fund, we have little doubt that a seamen's hospital almost rivalling Greenwich Hospital itself may in a few years be erected; but in the mean time we must say that, looking at all the circumstances, we think the managers of the Seamen's Hospital Ship would have done best to have accepted the quarter of Greenwich Hospital assigned to them, and not to have pressed a claim which, if it was not absolutely unreasonable, at least appears to have been inconvenient and ungracious.

In arriving at any decision as to the future of Greenwich Hospital it is not to be forgotten that there may (which God forbid) be at some future and no distant day greater demands upon its space than there are at present. In the event of a maritime war as many beds may be required for disabled sailors as there were in 1814. Whilst the bulk of the funds of Greenwich Hospital are made applicable to the payment of pensions to old and worn-out seamen of the Royal Navy, the bulk of the building itself ought, in accordance with the intention of the founders, to be used as an infirmary and hospital for the helpless and disabled, would, in time of war, afford to all the sailors of the fleet the accommodation which ought to be denied to none who have suffered in the service of their country. These are, unquestionably, the leading principles which ought to govern in making a change.

The thing most to be guarded against is jobbery. This has been rife at Greenwich in times past, and there seems a wonderful disposition to perpetuate it. Amongst other things, one of the principal Government officers appointed to inquire into and report upon the necessary alterations in the government and financial arrangements of the hospital, proposed, a year or two ago, to give himself a permanent situation out of its funds; and, this being objected to by "my Lords" on the ground that his "state of health" disqualifies him for any active duties, a correspondence ensued, in which it was proposed to turn over the control of the hospital estates to the department of Woods and Forests—certainly the very last department in this country likely to manage such property with advantage to the public.

Again, it has been proposed to appropriate the funds of this hospital, in a largely increased degree, to the augmentation of out-pensions, &c., to captains, commanders, lieutenants, and masters in the Navy. The funds of the hospital were not designed to be appropriated to any such objects. The nation is bound to provide properly for the pay and pensions of naval officers; and nothing could be more unjustifiable than to appropriate funds which have been specially dedicated to the purposes of the ordinary seamen to the payment of those who have no claim upon such bounty. All such proposals as these are mere jobs for the purposes of Admiralty patronage, and they ought strenuously to be resisted.—*Athenaeum*.



A FOREST ON FIRE IN CORSICA.

GREAT CONFLAGRA-

TION IN CORSICA.

In a previous number we gave some account of the great fire which had devoured a large part of the forests of the department of Var in Corsica which gave so picturesque an appearance to the coast and the crests of the more distant hills. It is no uncommon occurrence in the French colonies in Algeria to see a similar spectacle, but this year the calamity has been confined to Corsica, and for several days the great woods of Vero and Borgogliano have been a prey to the flames, which have been visible far out at sea, like great beacons of ill omen warning voyagers from the land.

Whenever any inquiry is instituted into the origin of these fires there is but one answer: it is the ashes of some hunter's pipe, or the careless spark from a peasant's match, or the unextinguished ashes from some wood fire whercon a pot has been boiled. These answers, however, are now believed to be very unsatisfactory, and some of the authorities are asking how it is that these immense conflagrations, sometimes seeming to have begun at two or three different points, are so much more common in Algeria than elsewhere: in Algeria and now in Corsica, where the State forests are of the utmost importance for growing timber used in naval architecture.

Letters received since our last mention of these great fires have brought some further particulars from the cantons of Vero and Borgogliano. Our readers are already acquainted with the nature of the country in the island of Corsica, with its mountainous irregular heights, to traverse which is always a matter of some difficulty, the obstacles presented by them having sufficed to prevent any complete exploration of the natural capabilities and the hidden sources of wealth to be found in the island. The State forests occupy a very considerable portion of the entire territory on the mountain slopes, and it is those which are among the most important at Vero and Borgogliano, about twenty miles from Ajaccio, that the fire has almost devastated during the dry autumn weather this year. It seems to have commenced in the dense underwood and dry brambles; and when first seen was mistaken for one of the ordinary fires lighted by the shepherds for cooking their food. Before long, however, it was discovered that some of the pines had burst into flames, which spread with amazing rapidity, invading the forest in a snaky, undulating line of fire, leaping as it were from tree to tree, and licking up everything in its course.

It was in this extremity that the garrison at Ajaccio and the sailors of the iron-clad squadron, which was cruising off the coast, were summoned to help against the threatened calamity. They were ready to set to work on the instant, and for several days laboured in the forests in the attempt to check the progress of the



FAC-SIMILE OF A NOTE ISSUED BY THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE AID OF THE ROMANS.

flames by felling trees, cutting away the underwood, and clearing all the spaces round the houses of Vero and the adjoining town. This was difficult enough; but at all events the inhabitants were spared from seeing their dwellings destroyed in the fierce progress of the flames. Not till this danger was overcome did the brave fellows, who had begun to work almost without resting from their long march, take much breathing-time. More than this it was impossible to effect; and, in place of the magnificent pines which towered in the forests, there remain only blackened stumps all around; from hillside to valley the green herbage has given way to heaps of cinders and calcined wood. The myrtles, the laurels, and all the beautiful shrubs which bordered the streams have been turned to charcoal; and the whole place is a desert.

THE FASHIONS.

The fashions for the ensuing season will abound in novelties, if we may judge from the great preparations which are being made by the Paris houses. There will be many new patterns for the bodies of dresses: some will be open in front, "Louis XV." style; others full back and front, cut square, or in points, "corsets à la Princesse," &c. The skirts will continue to be gored, but will be more fully trimmed, while the sleeves will be wide and open. The costume still worn and admired for walking dress is more elaborately trimmed than when it first appeared; thus the upper skirt will have a fall of jet fringe round the vandykes, and a wide trimming of jet embroidery above it; the under skirt may have the same ornamentation without the fringe. We noticed an elegant costume of black velvet trimmings in this style, the under skirt of amber, than which nothing can be more effective and piquant. Simpler

striped scarf, of various bright colours, is exceedingly brilliant and elegant. Children wear ribbons of a quarter of a yard in width, and it is quite a matter of importance that sashes should be properly tied. Flat bows are no longer worn; for ladies there must be two fan-shaped ones below, and two above, like wings, with the ends very long; children may have flat bows, and little boys wear them under their paletots and vests.

The following is a comfortable dress for the present season; the material is blue cashmere or French merino; the bottom of the skirt embroidered with a pattern of palm-leaves; over this is a *jupe fourreau*, much shorter than the dress, of black and grey taffeta, edged with a trimming of black velvet and jet balls.

Another Polonaise robe, of blue poplin, has a plain body, and is buttoned up on the left side from top to bottom, with large round buttons covered with the material; the skirt has two crossway folds piped with taffeta laid round the edge. A robe of striped taffeta of the two shades of Bismarck (which is still worn in every kind of material) has five narrow flounces of alternate shades round the skirt, and a Marie Antoinette fichu trimmed in the same way. This "fichu" is very much worn; it is made in every material—lace, muslin, net, silk, or of the same material as the dress—and has been adopted as an addition to the walking dress or for indoor costume, being universally admired.

Lace is very fashionable, whether of silk or wool; it will be greatly used as a trimming in the ensuing season.

Short jackets are still worn, but are more trimmed, and have long, wide sleeves. Our Engraving represents one of this style, which has been much admired.

We have noticed some very charming costumes in serge, which is a useful material for children's dresses and for those who require a



PARIS FASHIONS: WALKING-DRESSES.

costumes may be finished off by a plaiting of the same material as the skirts, or lczenges of taffets of the same colour as the dress laid on with a narrow jet trimming will be equally pretty. Striped velvets are worn for short costumes, the upper skirt looped up with cord and tassels, but having no other trimming.

The following effective mode of trimming a train skirt has been adopted for the present season:—Four crossway pieces of satin, not an inch wide, are placed on every seam; at the bottom they part two each way, and are formed into a grecque; a sash tied behind, with long ends bound with satin, has a grecque on each; the body is trimmed to match, and the sleeves are very large and open. Sashes are very much worn; for ladies the ribbons have been made half a yard wide, while the Indian scarf is still wider; but, being of soft silk, it is easily knotted together without a bow. The shaded,

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fabric which will bear hard wear; and are glad to find that some pretty shapes are being made in waterproof for ladies', covering the entire dress, but yet presenting a distinct appearance. There is a new model of the paletot shawl, having pointed lappels front and back; and a new burnous, which has a cape drawn up at the back, with rosettes, something like a Colleen Bawn mantle.

Velvet bonnets for the winter will be of the fanchon shape principally, and will, we hope, continue in favour, although we hear that it is probable a return will be made this winter to bonnets with crowns and curtains, and, indeed, have seen a slightly modified style of the old "cottage" which was once so popular; we do not, however, think the pretty light fanchon will be superseded by this model. Hats of various shapes are still in the majority; those of the Bismarck shade are most adopted.

NOTE ISSUED BY THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE ROMAN INSURRECTION.

ALTHOUGH there is a remarkable difference between the Romans and those followers of Garibaldi who seek to make Rome the capital of Italy, their aspirations are the same, and they unite in the wish to crown the national work either with or without the aid of the chief who so splendidly commenced it. To provide for the necessary expenses of the expedition the Roman National Committee has issued a considerable number of bonds or notes of hand, bearing the date April 30. These notes are distributed throughout Italy to persons who can be relied on, who in their turn distribute them where they are required, and give an account to the central committee at Florence. The latter disburses a part of the money to the various committees in the principal towns and centres of patriotic union, and each volunteer enrolled receives a sum of from two to three pounds. The bonds of twenty-five lire, and of a hundred lire, bear the indorsement of Garibaldi. It is not easy to discover the amount of capital subscribed for the purpose of honouring these bills; but it must be very considerable, and there can be no doubt that funds are readily obtained throughout the country. Our Engraving is a facsimile of one of the notes for twenty-five lire, indored by the great chief. On the back of the note is printed an address to the Italians, stating what has been done in raising these subscriptions, and the patriotic purpose to which they have been devoted.

TESTING ARMOUR-PLATES BY ELECTRICITY.—Science has just contributed a new service. By the advice of Professor Airy, the astronomer, electricity has been employed at Chatham Dockyard in testing the quality of armour-plating and other descriptions of iron. The process is one invented by Mr. S. M. Saxby. Heretofore we have had no known means of finding out internal defects. Mr. Saxby's invention was tried upon several of the thickest and largest armour-plates in the dockyard, and their soundness or frailty was detected at once. A 40-pounder Armstrong gun was subjected to the test, and in a few seconds a defect in the welding of the coil was revealed. The defect was invisible, but subsequent examination proved the correctness of the test. Trials of large guns and rifle-barrels were equally satisfactory.

THE FRENCH LAW OF DOMICILE.—The Civil Tribunal of Paris has just been again called on to decide questions concerning the domicile of foreigners settled in France, but who have never obtained legal authorisation to fix their residence in that country. The point now raised was as to what portion of the succession of M. Ott, partner in a Paris bank, and who had married a Frenchwoman in 1844, was subject to the payment of legacy duty. With respect to real and personal property situated in France, there was no doubt as to its liability; previous judgments had also decided that foreign funds, shares, and bonds are also liable, but only when they form part of a succession regulated by the French law. M. Ott had never obtained legal domicile in France; and, as Art. 110 of the Code Napoleon declares that it is the domicile which determines the place in which the succession is open, the present judgment decided that M. Ott was not subject to the French law, and that there was no necessity for the foreign securities forming part of it to be included in the inventory of property on which the legacy duty is paid. A similar judgment has also been given with respect to the succession of M. Da Zama Machado, a Portuguese subject, who had died in Paris after a residence of fifty-five years.

THE PASCAL FORGERY.—The eternal Pascal forgery again absorbed a great part of the last sitting of the Academy of Sciences. M. Faugère sent another letter in which he declared a letter of James II., published by M. Chasles, to be forged; and M. Chasles, with a courage worthy of a better cause, maintained the validity of all his waste paper. M. Leverrier at length rose, and this time spoke with such straightforwardness and even severity that we cannot do better than here translate his very words:—"On the strength," he said, "of documents attributed to Pascal and to *et alio*, and of the genuineness of which no other proof can be given than that they confirm each other, it is concluded that Newton attributed to Cassini, amongst others, observations said to have been received by him from Pascal, and this with the fraudulent intention of depriving Pascal of the honour of the discovery of important facts relating to the system of the universe. Newton clearly states, in his edition of his *Principia* published in 1726, that the measurements which he adopted are Cassini's, and he does so in two different passages. Even were there nothing but this declaration of the great geometer, made in the presence of his contemporaries, who were perfectly aware of the truth, we ought not to hesitate giving it our full reliance, rather than to documents unsupported by evidence and coming from no one knows where. But Cassini's observations exist, and they need only be consulted in the *Mémoires* of our Academy in order to convince oneself that they are identical with those given by Newton in 1726. Cassini describes his instruments, and gives the dates and details of his observations which were effected between the first and the last edition of the *Principia*. There is therefore no possibility of a doubt; Newton was sincere; the observations he quotes as being Cassini's are really those of that French astronomer. And consequently the documents attributed to Galileo and Pascal, and which could only have been genuine if the observations quoted by Newton had not been Cassini's, but Pascal's, are false, and those attributed to Galileo are quite as much so and more than the others." Sir David Brewster wrote to complain of an attack his last work on lighthouse apparatus had met with on the part of M. Reynaud, who had questioned Sir David Brewster's priority. The latter shows that the question had been fully treated by him as early as 1812, and that his apparatus then described was exactly the same as that afterwards presented by Fresnel to the Academy in 1822.

CRUELTY TO A CHILD.—A case in which a mother was charged with gross cruelty to her daughter was heard before the magistrates at Margate on Friday week. The defendant was Adelaide Lomax, wife of John Lomax, of East Cliff Villa; and it was alleged that she had assaulted Agnes Lomax, otherwise Agnes Bailey. Mary Ann Petley, a servant who had lived in the employment of Mrs. Lomax from Feb. 9 to July 90 last, described the treatment to which the child had been subject. She said:—About a month after I went there one of the children named Agnes Lomax was placed in the sink by Mrs. Lomax, who threw several jugs of cold water over her for being dirty. She is between six and seven years of age. Since then she has always had her hands tied behind or in front of her with string, and rice and mustard have been rubbed in her. Her hands have been tied every night on going to bed. Mrs. Lomax went up stairs one evening to put her to bed with her hands tied. Five minutes afterwards she came down to me and said, "Good God! I think I have killed the child!" having pushed her down on her back. She added that as she picked her up she hit her on her knuckles. I then went to the child and asked what was the matter, and she could not speak. She was in the corner of her bed-room, which is at the top of the house. Her hands were then tied behind her. Mrs. Lomax came up soon after and hit her on her back with her fist. When I dressed her the next morning I saw several bruises on her. One night the child was stripped of her clothing, her hands were fastened together, and she was compelled to remain out of bed all night. I have frequently seen Mrs. Lomax strike the child with her slipper when Mr. Lomax has been out. She has broken my hairbrush in hitting the child with it. The child has had her tongue pulled from between her teeth, and then Mrs. Lomax has hit her under the chin so that she might bite it. This treatment often occurred. Mr. Lomax treated the child with greater kindness than Mrs. Lomax did. The child did not go out once for five months and a fortnight. When we all went out the child was generally locked in one of the top rooms. The witness was cross-examined as to her conduct. In answer to a question from the Bench, the witness said that a proper supply of food was given to the child. Rebecca Kennedy, another domestic who had recently been in the service of Mrs. Lomax, also gave a detailed account of the systematic ill-treatment to which the child had been subjected by the defendant, which was similar in effect to that of the former witness. She added—She has also made her put her hand on a table, and then struck her fingers with the handle of the knife till blood came from under her nails. Her toes have been treated the same. When she has bruised the child, she has told me to put chloride of lime on her to burn the bruises out. I did it once or twice before I knew the nature of it. On one occasion I did not put enough on, and then Mrs. Lomax rubbed some in herself, and called me a fool. Mrs. Lomax told me her reason for ill-treating the child was because she was afraid Mr. Lomax would die, and leave her more than she wished him to. In cross-examination the witness denied that the child had proper food; hot meat was never given to her. Further evidence of a similar character was adduced at a second hearing on Wednesday, after which the case was again adjourned.

THE BISHOP OF LICHFIELD.—The Right Rev. the Bishop of Lichfield died suddenly, last Saturday night, at his episcopal residence, Eccleshall Castle. He had that day attended an important meeting at Stafford in support of the establishment of a middle class school at Denstone, near Burton-upon-Trent, in connection with St. Nicholas College, promoted by the Rev. W. Woodward. He spoke with unusual animation, and his vigour, for a man of eighty years of age, was the subject of special remark. He returned to Eccleshall, wrote twenty letters, and was sitting down to dinner, when he was taken ill, retired to a sofa, and died before a surgeon could arrive. A strong feeling of respect and esteem was entertained for the late Bishop by all sects and parties. In industry, zeal, and liberality he was unsurpassed. On four occasions during his episcopate he has headed a subscription for the Diocesan Church Extension Society with a contribution of £1000. The late Right Rev. John Lonsdale, D.D., was son of the late Rev. John Lonsdale, B.A., Vicar of Darfield, and Incumbent of Chapelthorpe, Yorkshire. He was born in 1788, and educated at Eton. He afterwards went to King's College, Cambridge, where he graduated B.A., 1811; M.A., 1814; B.D., 1824; and D.D., 1844. While at Cambridge he gained the University scholarship, and twice the Latin Alcibiades Prize, by which he obtained Sir William Browne's medal. In 1821 he was appointed to the office of Christian ad vocate to the University, and in the following year became domestic Chaplain to the then Archbishop of Canterbury. From 1831 to 1843 he was Prebendary of St. Paul's. His Lordship was, from 1839 to 1843, Principal of King's College, London, and was during that period Rector of Southgate, Kent. He was also Archdeacon of Middlesex during 1842 and 1843, and was for some time Chaplain at Lincoln's Inn. The Rev. Dr. Lonsdale was appointed, by the late Sir Robert Peel, Bishop of Lichfield in 1844. He was the ninetieth Bishop of Lichfield. The diocese includes Derbyshire, Staffordshire, and parts of Shropshire; and the annual value is £1500. There is a rumour that the successor to the vacant bishopric will be a Cambridge man, as, out of the twenty-six Bishops on the bench, as many as sixteen are from Oxford. The names mentioned as those from which a selection is probable are—Dr. Wordsworth, Archdeacon of Westminster; Dr. Harvey Goodman, Dean of Ely; Professor Selwyn, a brother of the Solicitor-General; Dr. Bickersteth, Prolocutor of the Lower House of Convocation; Archdeacon Emery; Dr. Atlay, of Leeds; and Mr. H. M. Birch, late tutor to the Prince of Wales.

LODGE FITZHARDINGE.—Maurice Frederick Fitzhardinge Berkeley, Baron Fitzhardinge, died at Berkeley Castle, Gloucestershire, on Thursday the 17th inst. The deceased nobleman was born on Jan. 3, 1788, and was the first Baron of his line. His brother had held an earldom of Berkeley with the barony of Seagrave; but, dying without issue, the titles became extinct, and the deceased Lord was raised to the Peerage by the creation of a new title, in 1861, as Baron Fitzhardinge, of the city and county of Bristol. Lord Fitzhardinge entered the Navy in 1802; served with distinction on the West India and other stations, part of the time under Sir Thomas M. Hardy. In 1810 he was sent up the Tagus in charge of a division of gun-boats, for the purpose of co-operating with the troops occupying the lines of Torres Vedras, and he obtained the thanks of Lord Wellington in the public orders for his gallantry on that occasion and for his descent on Villafranca. In 1840 we find him taking part in all the operations on the coast of Syria, where he was present at the camp of Djourni, at the bombardment of Beyrouth, the storming of Sidon, and the capture of St. Jean d'Acre, for which he was nominated a C.B. and received the Turkish gold medal. In 1846 he was appointed a naval A.D.C. to her Majesty, and obtained flag rank in 1849. He was, in 1853, sworn a Privy Councillor and created a K.C.B., and made a G.C.B. in 1861. He was for many years M.P. for Gloucester, which he represented in the Liberal interest from December, 1832, to the following April, when he was unseated; from 1835 to the dissolution in 1837, and from 1841 to 1857. He held a seat at the Admiralty Board under Sir James Graham and Lord Auckland, in the Grey and Melbourne Administrations, and again under the Earl of Minto from 1857 to 1863, when he resigned his post on account of a difference with his colleagues as to the propriety of sending ships to foreign stations with reduced complements of men, on which he published his views in detail in a "Letter addressed to Sir J. Barrow, Bart.," published in 1839. He resumed his old post at the Admiralty under Lord Auckland and Sir Francis Baring, in Earl Russell's Administration, and subsequently, from December, 1852, to 1857, under Sir James Graham and Sir Charles Wood, in the Aberdeen and Palmerston Administrations, and during a great part of the latter period was First Sea Lord. The deceased was twice married. First, in 1823, to Lady Charlotte Lennox, a daughter of the sixth Duke of Richmond. This lady died in 1833, leaving issue (now living) as follows:—Francis William Fitzhardinge Berkeley, born in 1829; Charles Paget Fitzhardinge Berkeley, born in 1830; and Frederica Charlotte Fitzhardinge (Mrs. Armitage), born in 1822. His Lordship married, secondly, in 1834, Lady Charlotte Moreton, daughter of the first Earl of Ducie. The late Lord will be succeeded in his title and estates by his eldest son, the Hon. Colonel Francis William Fitzhardinge Berkeley, who was born in 1820, and was educated at Rugby. He entered the Army early, and was a Captain in the Royal Horse Guards (Blue) from 1853 to 1857. Colonel Berkeley has been Lieutenant-Colonel of the Royal Gloucestershire Hussars, and Colonel Commandant of the South Gloucestershire Militia since 1860.

LODGE COLECHESTER.—The Right Hon. Charles Abbot, Lord Colchester, died on Friday afternoon week, at his residence in Colchester-square, after a protracted illness. The deceased nobleman was the eldest of the two sons of Charles Abbot, who, in 1801, was appointed chief secretary to the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, and Keeper of the Privy Seal in that country, and who, in 1802, was chosen Speaker of the House of Commons. Charles Abbot retained the chair of that assembly until the Session of 1817, and on his retirement in June of that year he was created a Peer by the title of Lord Colchester, of Colchester, in the county of Essex. The deceased was born on March 12, 1798, and was, consequently, in his seventieth year. On the decease of his father, in May, 1829, he succeeded to the barony; and on Feb. 3, 1836, he married the Hon. Elizabeth Susan Law, second daughter of Edward, first Lord Ellenborough, who survives her husband. The late Lord has an only son, the Hon. Reginald Charles Abbot, born Feb. 13, 1842. The late Lord Colchester was educated at the Royal Naval College, and entered the Navy in 1811, on board the *Revenge* (74). He was one of the crew of the *Alcose* (Captain Murray Maxwell), which accompanied Lord Amherst to China, and on the return home was wrecked, in February, 1817. His Lordship received many other appointments; and his most important commission was that of taking, in April, 1831, as Captain of the *Volage* (28), the Emperor and Empress of Brazil to Cherbourg, and afterwards of enforcing the Dutch embargo. The late Lord Colchester was a Conservative in politics. On the accession of the Earl of Derby to power, in 1852, he was appointed Vice-President of the Board of Trade and Paymaster-General; and, again, on Lord Derby taking office in 1858, was appointed Postmaster-General, which office his Lordship held till June, 1859. His heir, Reginald Charles Abbot, already mentioned, was educated at Christ Church, Oxford, at which University he attained distinguished honours—that of second class in classics—in 1861. He has unsuccessfully contested two constituencies since the last dissolution of Parliament, and is now one of the secretaries to the Earl of Derby, the First Lord of the Treasury. The late Lord obtained his rank as Lieutenant Sept. 15, 1817; Commander, Jan. 27, 1821; Captain, Jan. 26, 1826; and became a Rear-Admiral (reserved), April 1, 1854; Vice-Admiral, May 2, 1860; and Admiral, Jan. 11, 1864.

SIR JAMES SOUTH.—We have to announce the death of Sir James South, F.R.S., at an advanced age. He was the son of a dispensing druggist, who towards the close of the last century carried on business in Blackman-street, Borough; but James South entered upon a higher branch of the medical profession, and became a member of the Royal College of Surgeons. For some years he practised his profession in Southwark, and in the intervals of business pursued the study of astronomy, in connection with which he made some extremely valuable observations. In 1822 and 1823, in conjunction with Sir John Herschel, he compiled a catalogue of 380 double stars. After this he removed to Camden-hill, Kensington, where he constructed an observatory, to which he devoted the closest attention during the remainder of his life, and which has achieved a European fame. He was one of the founders of the Royal Astronomical Society, and was for a time its president. In 1830, on the recommendation of the Duke of Wellington, who was then Prime Minister, he received the honour of knighthood, and for several years past he has enjoyed a pension of £300 a year on the Civil List for his contributions to astronomical science. The account of Sir James South's astronomical observations during his residence in Southwark is published in the *Philosophical Transactions* for 1825, and is accompanied by an interesting description of the 3-ft. and 7-ft. equatorials with which they were made. One of these instruments is still mounted and in excellent condition at the Camden-hill Observatory. There are also in the observatory a 7-ft. transit instrument, and a 4-ft. transit circle, the latter celebrated as having formerly belonged to Mr. Groombridge, and as having been the instrument with which the observations were made for the formation of the catalogue of circumpolar stars which bears his name. Sir James South was born in 1785.

THE WIDOW OF THE LATE KING OF DENMARK.—Countess Danner, morganatic wife of the late King Frederick VII. of Denmark, has just died. She was born in 1814, and was at first a teacher in Norway, and afterwards an actress in Paris. It was at a later period, in Copenhagen, in a *magasin des modes*, that Frederick, at that time Crown Prince, saw her for the first time. On his accession to the throne, in 1848, he conferred on her the title of Baroness, afterwards created her Countess Danner, and married her publicly, in the church of Frederiksberg, on April 17, 1850. Countess Danner was a lady possessed of warm feelings and of good ability. She was very popular in Denmark, and more than once obtained her share of the ovations with which the King was greeted.

THE STEAM ROLLER.—A steam roller has been adopted by the Liverpool Corporation for the paving and levelling of streets. When tested the other day it was found that the unusual apparatus of a steam-engine in the streets frightened some of the omnibus and cab horses, and caused one or two accidents. It is understood, therefore, that the machine will be employed for the most part at night or very early in the morning.

WATER SUPPLY OF EAST LONDON.

IT will be recollect that, in consequence of a formal complaint from householders supplied with water by the East London Waterworks Company, relating to the quantity and quality of the supply, the Board of Trade instructed Captain Tyler to report upon the matter; and the board eventually found that the complaint was proved, and gave notice to the company, under the Metropolis Water Supply Act of 1852, to remove the grounds of the complaint. In July the company forwarded to the Board of Trade a reply, in which they deal first with the question of insufficiency of quantity. It appears that nearly a fourth of the houses in the district have deficient internal appliances; and the company suggest that some public body (but not the company) should be armed with direct authority to compel the owners to provide and maintain proper fittings and receptacles. The company declare their willingness to lay and maintain pipes from their mains to the entrance of any court, so as to give the means of constant supply there, provided the owners of the houses will furnish adequate pipeage and waste-preventing apparatus. An intermittent Sunday supply, or an equivalent on Saturday evening, would be extremely inconvenient to the company, and they would prefer a constant supply if the public will make the necessary preparations to receive it. The company give constant supply where small ferrals in the service-pipes of the houses and accumulating cisterns are provided, and Captain Tyler reports that if with this there be combined taps for drinking purposes on the service-pipes (to which the company do not object), all would be done that could be required. In 1866, out of the 91,975 houses supplied by this company, 25,393 (mostly new streets or rows) had this constant supply; but owners of old houses are not often willing to incur the expense of altering existing fittings. The directors explain the steps they are taking for preventing shortness of water in dry seasons, and Captain Tyler reports that these measures are satisfactory, and that it is only to be regretted that they were not adopted at an earlier period. The Board of Trade state that, while preferring, with the company, the extension of a system of constant supply, they are of opinion that a Sunday supply should in the mean time be afforded in all those cases in which it is urgently required. Passing on to the question of quality, we find the directors explaining, with respect to the two open ponds from which water was admitted into the covered reservoirs under special circumstances, that the connection has been cut off and the open reservoirs are to be filled up; and Captain Tyler reports that their action in respect to this matter, in which they had gravely offended, is now quite satisfactory. The alleged soakage from the Lea into the covered reservoirs will also be rendered impossible, because, when a further filtering area above them has been constructed, the one which it would be difficult to render watertight will be filled up, and the other has its depth lessened and be made watertight to the satisfaction of the Board of Trade. Captain Tyler is of opinion that the company are thus doing voluntarily all that could be expected with a view to the remedy of this evil. To prevent the contamination of the waters of the Lea by sewage before they reach the company's works, they have done much, at vast expense, and were prepared to make a costly extension of their intercepting drains, but the Rivers Pollution Committee have now recommended the creation of a board of conservators, with power to prevent contamination, and a very comprehensive scheme for dealing with the sewage of the entire valley below Hertford has been designed by Mr. Bazalgette, the principal engineer of the Metropolitan Board of Works. The House of Commons' Committee (Mr. Ayrton's) of last Session have also recommended that each town should be compelled to intercept its own sewage and apply it to land. The Waterworks Company in these circumstances withdrew their necessarily imperfect measure, determining to co-operate earnestly with the Board of Trade in procuring satisfactory enactments from Parliament and carrying them into effect. They maintain that their water did not cause cholera, but freely allow that if this were conceded it would still be their duty to supply water in the best possible state. They represent that Professor Frankland's reports show it to be the freest of any London water supply from the traces of previous sewage contamination. Captain Tyler, however, has to state that "chemical analysis is a very imperfect guide as regards the absolute condition of water." Chemical evidence avails but little in proof of purity when it is known that the company's filtered water is more or less contaminated by soakage in the Old Ford covered reservoirs, that unfiltered stagnant water was frequently served out to the district from the open reservoirs at Old Ford, and that the Lea is itself subject to so much pollution. Admitting that the company are now doing, or are ready to do, or have done, what they can towards removing these means of contamination, there still can be no question as regards the past, that the complaints of the memorialists on the subject of quality may fairly be said to have been well-founded. But Captain Tyler adds that, "when the Lea has been protected from contamination, and the other improvements contemplated have been carried out, there will certainly no longer be any cause for suspicion on account of cholera or other epidemic disease against the water of the East London Waterworks Company." In closing the correspondence which has taken place, the Board of Trade express their opinion that no time should be lost in carrying out the various improvements which the company have now obtained power or bound themselves to effect; and they add that "the questions of the conservancy of the Lea, of the company's obligations as regards fittings, and other questions connected with the subject matter of this inquiry will receive due consideration from the Board of Trade in the preparation of any further bills which it may seem desirable to introduce into Parliament."

THE COMMENCEMENT OF OLD AGE.—What are the signs of natural decay? When does old age commence? The natural history of individual death, without disease, is one of the subjects which it remains for modern physicians to study. When does the vital machine begin to wear out in the typically healthy man, and what are the ways by which normal decay, inevitable death, invade the aged man? With our modern means of precise observation and minute pathological research, we should be able now to lay the foundation for the answer to this most important question. The subject is suggested to us by a most thoughtful, able, and well-written thesis on death, considered from the etiological point of view, by Dr. Acosta, of Paris, which will repay the perusal of reflective men. Discussing the difficulty of determining the commencement of old age, Dr. Acosta reminds us that, whilst the Greeks regarded the age of 49 (7 times 7, their climacteric number) as the culminating point of human strength, and, at the same time, as the commencement of decadence, M. Florence holds that decadence does not commence until the seventieth year, an age which the Chinese, according to Sir John Bowring, regard as a metaphorical one, calling those who have attained to it "rare birds," and men of 90 years old "loiterers." The two climacteric ages of the Arabs were 63 and 81, being the multiplication of 9 (their magic number) by 7 and 9. The age of 63 was considered so critical that it was called the grand climacteric, and the ancients were accustomed to mutually congratulate each other when they had passed it. Quetelet, to a certain extent, admits the danger of this critical period; for he says, "From 60 to 65 years of age, vitality loses much of its energy—that is to say, the probability of continuing to live diminishes greatly." M. Revelle-Parise, while, in common with some other physiologists, allowing the existence of two sources of strength in the constitution, which he names force in reserve and force in use, believes that the physiological fact which reveals old age is the progressive diminution of reserved force so superabundant in youth. There certainly exist some organisations which are proof against the ravages of time and the attack of sickness and death. Some men at the age of 80, 90, even 100 years, have preserved their sensorial and intellectual faculties and great mental energy even to the last days of their life. A complete list of them would be too long. We will therefore only mention a few names. Plato died at the age of 81, pen in hand; Georgias continued his literary labours to the age of 107; Socrates wrote his famous "Panegyric of Athens" in his 94th year; Theophrastus, his "Characters" at 99; Cato learnt Greek after his 60th year; Cicero composed his charming work, "De Senectute," one year before his violent death; Voltaire wrote a great number of tragedies, "Tancrède" and "L'Orphelin de la Chine," amongst others worthy of his best time, at the age of 65, and he came to Paris in his 84th year to give himself an intellectual treat—the representation of his tragedy of "Irene." There are also still living members of our profession, as well as the literary, scientific, and political world, who would illustrate the list of Nestors, remarkable both for their longevity and for the intellectual labours to which they continue to devote themselves. Disraeli has said, "Old age has been a thing unknown to many men of Genius,"—*British Medical Journal*.

